

Celebrity Buzz



**Brown's manager denies text**  
pg 30

The world's largest global newspaper



Entertainment

Canadians behind Spears' outfits

pg 28

OTTAWA • WEEKEND, MARCH 13-15, 2009

metronews.ca

## Paramedics treat seven tenants for smoke inhalation

**FIRE** Seven people suffered smoke inhalation injuries during an apartment fire in Ottawa's west end early Thursday morning.

At 2 a.m., firefighters attended a report of a fire at a five-storey apartment building at 1390 Lepage Ave. Upon arrival, they discovered a fire in a top-floor apartment.

The fire, which was believed to have started in a mattress, was contained to the unit but filled the top two floors of the building with smoke, said Ottawa District Fire Chief Dave Capstick.

Capstick said paramedics treated the two tenants of the fire unit for smoke inhalation at the scene, but both refused transport to hospital. Paramedics also treated five others for smoke inhalation and took three people to hospital, Capstick said.

The fire caused \$125,000 in damages to the building and \$75,000 to the contents. The cause of the fire is now under investigation.

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

Riding the **Recession**

Now through the end of March, Metro will share advice on how to cut down on expenses and navigate your way through the recession.

Movies & Entertainment

- Film suggestions to take your mind off your own financial problems, pg 20

Next Week

- How the current economic climate is affecting the music industry.



## Canadian Bronze



Denny Morrison of Fort St. John, B.C., skates to third place Thursday in the men's 1500-metre race at the ISU World Single Distance Speed Skating Championships at the Richmond Olympic Oval in Richmond, B.C. Ottawa's Kristina Groves took the bronze in the women's 3,000-metre. Story, pg 12

## One dead, 1 critically hurt in collisions

**INVESTIGATION** A 49-year-old woman is dead after the car she was driving collided with a cement truck downtown Thursday morning.

Just before 10 a.m., a cement truck was headed south on King Edward Avenue when it collided with a Toyota car headed west-bound on St. Patrick Street.

Paramedics arrived to find the female driver of the Toyota without vital signs. She was declared deceased shortly after arriving at hospital.

Police are not releasing her identity pending notification of next of kin.

The 56-year-old male truck driver was not injured.

Investigators are continuing to look into the traffic light sequence at the time of the collision to determine who had the right of way.

Another collision between a scooter and a car in the city's southwest end left

a 41-year-old man with life-threatening injuries earlier Thursday morning.

The collision occurred in the intersection of Merivale Road and Central Park Drive at around 7:35 a.m.

The man, the driver of the scooter, suffered head injuries, a collapsed lung and multiple fractures.

A female occupant of the car was also taken to hospital with minor injuries.

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

# Khawaja sentenced to 10½ yrs

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**An Ottawa man convicted of terrorism late last year was sentenced to 10½ years in prison in Superior Court Thursday.**

It will be five years before Mohammad Momin Khawaja, the first person convicted under Canada's post 9/11 terrorism laws, will be eligible for parole.

"There is no question that Momin Khawaja was fully responsible for his actions that led to his being found guilty," said Ontario Superior Court Justice Douglas Rutherford Thursday.

"In his mid-20s, he went far out of his way ... to engage with the Khyam group.

"This is not a case of a vulnerable young man being beguiled or lured into a criminal misconduct in which he was not inclined to participate. Khawaja was a willing and eager participant."

On Oct. 29, 2008, the 29-year-old Orleans resident, who worked as a software developer for the Department of Foreign Affairs, was found guilty of five of seven terrorism-related counts against him. He had pleaded not guilty to all charges.

While defence lawyer Lawrence Greenspon said Khawaja should be let off with time served through the two-for-one rule, Crown David McKercher had recommended Khawaja re-

### Defence

- Outside the courthouse, defence lawyer Lawrence Greenspon said the sentence is "a long way from what the Crown was seeking," and that he would be speaking to Khawaja about the next steps in a few days.

ceive two life sentences and an additional 44 to 58 years in prison with no chance of parole for at least 10 years.

Khawaja has been jailed at the Ottawa-Carleton Detention Centre since his arrest March 29, 2004.

Rutherford said he has taken into account the fact that Khawaja "is (a) young man." "There is evidence of some redeeming qualities in him," he said.

Still, the court knows nothing about his potential for reformation, Rutherford said, pointing out that Khawaja only spoke twice during the trial — his plea of "not guilty" and to answer "no" when asked if he wished to say anything before the sentence was read.

Khawaja showed no emotion during his sentencing.

Rutherford has ordered Khawaja to give a DNA sample and prohibited Khawaja from possessing weapons, ammunition and explosives in the future.

### ShareYourViews

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Check 7.  
The page,  
not the player.







# Local



## STEPping up speed enforcement

Through its Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP), the City of Ottawa's Integrated Road Safety Program issued 116 tickets for unsafe lane changing and laid 2,690 charges for speeding last month. Public Works and Services and Ottawa Public Health started the program in 2003 with the goal of reducing traffic fatalities and injuries by 30 per cent by 2010.

METRO OTTAWA

# Why don't you go flick off?

## Two-week countdown on for worldwide Earth Hour event

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**Prepare to flick off. Earth Hour is only two weeks away.**

On Thursday, Mayor Larry O'Brien and Gatineau Mayor Marc Bureau unveiled a giant three-storey outdoor banner at city hall to remind residents to turn out the lights from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. on March 28.

"Last year, Ottawa was one of the first cities in Canada to support Earth Hour," said O'Brien.

"Once again, we are proud to be participating in this global call to action and to demonstrate our commitment to fighting climate change."

Hydro Ottawa measured a decrease in energy use of just over four per cent during last year's Earth Hour.

While there is no specific reduction target this year, Hydro Ottawa president and CEO Rosemarie Leclair said the goal is really just to spread awareness.

"We want people to at



Hydro Ottawa president and CEO Rosemarie Leclair poses with the Conservation Owl in front of the three-storey outdoor Earth Hour banner unveiled at city hall Thursday. Residents are asked to turn out the lights from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. on March 28.

least know that it's happening and why and really communicate to everybody that taking one small action like turning off a light bulb makes a huge difference," she said.

Hydro Ottawa will once again be measuring the drop in power consumption based on a comparison based on the same hour of the week preceding Earth Hour.

Since 2002, the city's energy investment strategy has resulted in a \$1.3-million reduction in the city's annual utility bill from decreased energy consumption in city facilities.

**"Once again, we are proud to be participating in this global call to action and to demonstrate our commitment to fighting climate change."**

Mayor Larry O'Brien

Earth Hour is a global campaign that began in Sydney, Australia, in 2007 by the World Wildlife Fund.

The city and Hydro Ottawa are encouraging residents of Ottawa to sign up online at [ottawa.ca](http://ottawa.ca) and register their support for the fight against climate change by participating on March 28.

This year, Earth Hour organizers hope to reach one billion people in more than 1,000 cities around the world.

Through their participation, individuals can learn that it's possible to make a positive difference in their environment.

## Giving a voice to Canadian streetworkers

JESSICA PERREAULT  
for Metro Ottawa

**STREETLEVEL** Ottawa will play host for the second time to Streetlevel's national conference for streetworkers and volunteers on March 25.

This year's conference, entitled Streetlevel IV: A legacy of justice, is put on by the National Roundtable on Poverty and Homelessness and will be held at the Westin Hotel.

"Primarily because it's the capital," said Julia Beazley, co-ordinator for Streetlevel, as to why Ottawa was chosen again. "For some coming from smaller communities it's nice to see Ottawa."

Beazley noted that Wednesday's program has an advocacy theme that hopes to get the attention of politicians, also making Ottawa an obvious choice.

Although there is an element of advocacy, the conference is also meant to support the workers and volunteers involved.

According to Beazley, members of smaller communities often work in isolation and don't necessarily have the support network seen in larger communities like Toronto.

"People become tired, the problems are getting worse. It's hard work," she said. "I think they find a lot of friendships, solidarity I suppose."

Delegates will have the opportunity to take part in various workshops and presentations as well as a vigil for those in homeless communities around the country who have died in the last year.

# Paralympics countdown on

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**EVENT** Hervé Lord is looking to end his international hockey career on a high note.

After representing Canada in four previous Paralympics and winning gold in Torino, the 2010 games will be his last.

"That's the dream of every Canadian to win gold in their own country, especially in front of friends and family," he said a ceremony at Parliament Hill Thursday to mark the one-year countdown to the Paralympics.

"It's the dream of every little kid to wear the maple leaf on their jersey. We're doing this for them also, to give them that extra boost. One of these days, it's going to happen for some of them."

This is the first Paralympic Winter Games ever held in Canada. Canada is

**"It's the dream of every little kid to wear the maple leaf."** Hervé Lord

ranked ninth all time in the Paralympic medal count.

In Torino, Canada ranked sixth with five gold, three silver and five bronze medals. That medal haul is expected to be much higher in 2010.

"Today, the Paralympic Games proudly takes its place beside the Olympics games," Federal Minister of State (Sport) Garry Lunn said. "Anyone watching our Paralympic athletes knows very well why these games have become a major event on the international sports scene."

Lunn said the games are an exhibition of the true power of sport and its ability to inspire, excite and encourage people to excel to be their very best.

Ina Forrest, the wheelchair curling gold medalist in Torino, said the opportunity to represent Canada in her home province in 2010 represents the ultimate competition.

"It was our extreme pleasure to win the gold medal in front of cheering fans, family and friends. It was a thrilling moment we hope to repeat next year."

To mark the countdown to the Paralympics, the International Paralympic Committee flag was raised beside the Olympic flag on Parliament Hill yesterday.

John Furlong, CEO of the Vancouver Organizing Committee, said it was important that the two flags fly at equal height, side-by-side for symbolism's sake.

"This time next year the Paralympic flame will arrive in the stadium in Vancouver and 55,000 happy Canadians will arrive in the stadium to receive it and kick start this wonderful event," he said.



Paralympic hopeful Hervé Lord, at the one-year Paralympic countdown on Parliament Hill Thursday, said he wants to bring home the gold with the Canadian sledge hockey team next year in Vancouver.

metronews.ca

What's online today.

**Video** Report into the escape of six inmates from a Regina jail takes aim at inattentive corrections staff at [metronews.ca/canada](http://metronews.ca/canada)

**Lotteries**

Ontario Pick 3: 2 5 8; Ontario Pick 4: 7 9 8 4

Encore: 7565976; Payday: 7, 39, 61 & 73.

Daily Keno: 4, 9, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 27, 30, 33, 34, 41, 43, 45, 51, 59, 65, 67, 68, 70.

These results are not official.





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Mayor Larry O'Brien will launch a promotional campaign highlighting Ottawa's bilingualism policy during his third annual breakfast with the Francophone community Friday. The event is one of many nationwide events this month marking Les Rendez-vous de la Francophonie. **METRO OTTAWA**

## Police seek help solving Bank of Nova Scotia heist

**ROBBERY** Investigators with the Ottawa police robbery section have released a surveillance photo in hopes that the public can help identify a suspect in a robbery at a Bank of Nova Scotia on March 6.

At 2 p.m. a man carrying a black handgun entered the bank at 2515 Bank St. He handed the teller a brown paper bag and demanded money. The man then left through the rear door.

The suspect is described as a thin white male, approximately five-foot-nine and between the ages of 20



and 30 years old. He was wearing a red-hooded sweatshirt, a black balaclava and dark-blue jeans.

Anyone with information is asked to call Ottawa police at 613-236-1222 ext. 5116. **METRO OTTAWA**

### News in brief

**SHOOTING** Ottawa police have not committed a criminal offence in relation to firearm injuries sustained by two Ottawa residents, the Special Investigations Unit said yesterday. On Dec. 29, two OPS officers arrived at an apartment on Pinecrest Road. Samantha Soderlind, 25, allegedly confronted them with a knife.

An officer discharged her pistol, and the bullet grazed Soderlind and went through a wall, striking 27-year-old Steven Lindsey. The SIU declared that under the circumstances the force was justified, and it was an unforeseeable event that the bullet would strike an innocent bystander. **METRO OTTAWA**

## Ottawa gets a taste of Ink

Tattoo artist and reality star Kat Von D in town on book tour

JESSICA PERREAULT  
for Metro Ottawa



### Hitting the road

Von D continues her book tour through the United States until March 22.

**More than a thousand people flocked downtown earlier this week for a chance to meet the star of the TLC program L.A. Ink.**

Tattoo artist Kat Von D was in Ottawa promoting her new book, *High Voltage Tattoo*, the same day her boyfriend, Mötley Crüe bassist Nikki Sixx, was in town to perform at ScotiaBank Place.

Ottawa resident Bianca Wahab was in the line of more than 1,000 fans at the Rideau Street Chapters waiting to get up close and personal with her idol.

For Wahab, 21, the opportunity to say thank you to her hero was worth far more than the autograph opportunity. "She's such an inspiration to me," said Wahab, who's got her own fashion and accessory line.

Wahab came to the table with a custom purse in hand, designed specifically for Von D. The leather bag

displayed a giant lightning bolt in the centre, which Wahab modelled after Von D's High Voltage logo.

"I just wanted to give her something to say thanks," said Wahab. "You know, she's a woman in the business. It was to kind of say, 'You go, girl!'"

Fans were asked to have only the book ready to be signed and keep all other memorabilia to themselves to allow everyone an opportunity for an autograph and photo. This didn't stop fans from giving Von D gifts, from CDs to birthday cards (Von D turned 27 on March 8.)

After an hour, fans were warned that there may not be time to get through everyone, but the store and Von D's staff ensured that everybody had a chance to greet her.



Kat Von D, tattoo artist and star of the TLC program L.A. Ink, signs autographs and greets fans at the Rideau location of Chapters earlier this week.

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## City to fund non-profit community initiatives

**APPLICATIONS** The city is calling for non-profit community organizations in Ottawa to submit applications for new community funding priorities and initiatives in crime prevention.

The community funding is available for projects that encourage positive and sustainable changes in planning, service delivery and improved health in neighbourhoods; that promote healthy living and physical activity in children and seniors; and encourage the integration of low-income or marginalized residents into their neighbourhoods.

Crime Prevention Ottawa funding projects should be based on research and effective practices and target specific crime issues, like violence against women, or address risk factors associated with crime.

The applications are now available and must be postmarked or received by April 22.

More information is available online at [ottawa.ca/funding](http://ottawa.ca/funding) or [crimepreventionottawa.ca](http://crimepreventionottawa.ca).

**TIM WIECLAWSKI/**  
**METRO OTTAWA**



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# Canada



## See no bottles

The City of Toronto, having banned the sale of water bottles at city hall in December of last year, has taken to covering up the bottled water option on vending machines with hockey tape. Pepsi Bottling Group, which owns the machines, said it would remove the bottles from the machines by Friday.

**TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

# One dead after chopper ditches

Rescuers save one man, searching for 16 more in North Atlantic waters

**At least one person was killed and 16 were missing in the choppy, frigid waters off the Atlantic Coast on Thursday after a helicopter crashed while ferrying workers to two offshore oil projects.**

One of the passengers was rescued after the crash and taken to hospital, said Rick Burt, general manager of Cougar Helicopters, which operated the Sikorsky S-92 transport.

An official said another person had been found dead. Two life rafts also had been pulled from the water, but nobody was in them, rescuers said.

The helicopter sank in the North Atlantic about 65

**“The pilot did report that he was having some technical malfunction and was turning back to St. John’s.”**

Rick Burt, Cougar Helicopters general manager

kilometres southeast of St. John’s, N.L., leaving behind a debris field.

It was carrying 16 passengers and two crew and was heading for the Sea Rose production vessel at Husky Energy Inc.’s White Rose oil field and the Hibernia oil platform when it sent out a distress call at 9:18 a.m. local time.

Hibernia is 315 km southeast of St. John’s, and Sea Rose is another 35 km away.

“The pilot did report that he was having some technical malfunction and was turning back to St. John’s,” Burt told a press conference.

He had no information on the survivor’s condition.

Hercules aircraft, Cormorant helicopters and surface ships were in the area trying to find survivors in the near-freezing water, said Denis McGuire of the Joint Rescue Co-ordination Centre in Halifax.

“The search effort is going on right now,” he said.

Hibernia and White Rose, along with a third project, Terra Nova, produce as much as 400,000 barrels a day on the Grand Banks off Newfoundland. Companies led by Exxon Mobil Corp are planning a fourth development called Hebron.

The region is known for its vast oil wealth, but it also has some of the industry’s most hazardous operating conditions due to harsh winter weather, rough seas and icebergs.

Its most deadly disaster was in February 1982, when the Ocean Ranger, at the time the world’s largest

drilling rig, capsized after being pounded by 20-metre waves, killing all 84 on board.

Cougar Helicopters equips passengers on its helicopters with survival suits that can sustain life for up to 30 hours in frigid waters, according to the company’s website.

Television images showed a Cougar helicopter arriving at a helipad in St. John’s with the survivor on a stretcher.

Rescuers said water temperatures were just above freezing, with waves of up to three metres, winds in the range of 46 to 65 km/h and good visibility.

**REUTERS**

## Man in stable condition after Niagara fall

**HOSPITALIZED** The man who survived a plunge over Niagara’s Horseshoe Falls and spent about 45 minutes naked in the icy waters below is in stable condition and expected to make a full recovery, police said Thursday.

The man, who was swept over the roaring 51-metre falls on Wednesday after jumping into the Niagara River, was treated for hypothermia, shock and cuts to his forehead.

He is just the second person to live through an unaided, intentional plunge over the cataract.

**“Doctors are telling us that he is expected to make a full recovery in the near future.”**

Police spokesperson

that he is expected to make a full recovery in the near future,” said a spokesperson for the Niagara Parks Police.

The spokesperson said police have closed their investigation and concluded that the Canadian man — initially identified as an American tourist — was attempting suicide and no charges will be pressed.

The man resisted efforts to be rescued and was naked when he was pulled from the frigid waters below the falls in front of hundreds of tourists. Police said the man was dressed when he jumped in the water but that the force of the powerful waterfall is enough to strip the clothes off someone.

**REUTERS**

## Prisoners escaped with nail clippers

**REPORT** Six high-risk prisoners escaped a Regina jail last summer after spending four months chipping a path to freedom with nail clippers and other makeshift tools, according to a government report released Thursday.

The prisoners, four of whom faced murder charges, used their tools to remove a heating grill and steel plate and win access to a brick exterior wall.

While some inmates played cards at a carefully positioned table to block the guards’ view, others chipped away at the wall, finally breaking through with a steel shower rod. They then used braided blankets and bedsheets to scale a wall of the compound and escape.

“Idle hands are the Devil’s tools,” said the Saskatchewan government report, referring to the fact

that prisoners at the Regina Correctional Center had little to do in the unit, which was built in 1964 and housed prisoners awaiting court dates.

“They tend to gravitate toward doing whatever they can get away with.”

**REUTERS**

**ShareYourViews**

ottawalatters@metronews.ca

## CFB Trenton Repatriation



Mourners hold a photo of fallen soldier Trooper Marc Diab during a repatriation ceremony Thursday at Canadian Forces Base Trenton. Diab, 22, was killed when a roadside bomb detonated near an armoured vehicle on March 8.

**REUTERS**

## News in brief

**BUDGET** The federal budget implementation bill has been passed in the Senate and is on its way to receive royal assent.

**GUILTY** A Saskatchewan jury found Curt Dagenais guilty Thursday. In 2006, Dagenais led three RCMP officers on a high-speed chase and then

fired on them. He has been convicted of two counts of first-degree murder and one count of attempted murder.

**CBC NEWS ONLINE**

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## Montreal nurse kidnapped in Darfur

**MSF** Laura Archer has seen the faces of fear and death up close in some of the most dangerous places on Earth.

But no matter how desperate the conditions, the Canadian nurse returned again and again to ease the suffering.

Now she and two colleagues are in the hands of kidnappers in the Darfur

### Mission

- This was Laura Archer’s fourth African mission with the group in three years.

region of Sudan, a country whose leader is an accused war criminal who has been on the offensive against aid workers like Archer.

Archer, a 31-year-old Montreal resident, was working in Serif Umra for the Belgian unit of Médecins Sans Frontières aid group.

She worked with patients on basic health care, nutrition, maternal and child health, and provided training and coaching for other health staff.

**TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**



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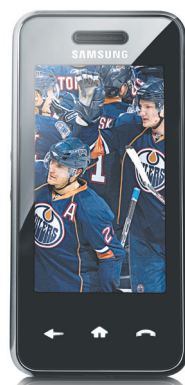
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Scientists have shown for the first time that it may be possible to “read” a person’s mind simply by looking at brain activity. By measuring blood flow, British researchers were able to tell where volunteers were located within a computer-generated environment. **REUTERS**

# World



## Shoe thrower jailed

Muntazer al-Zaidi, left, an Iraqi reporter who hurled his shoes at former U.S. president George W. Bush, was convicted on Thursday of attempting to assault a foreign leader and jailed for three years, dismaying many Iraqis who regard him as a hero. **REUTERS**

# German shooter gave warning

‘You will hear of me tomorrow,’ teen wrote online

**A teenager who killed 15 people in a shooting rampage in Germany on Wednesday warned in a chatroom the night before that he planned to go to his former school with weapons and stage a “proper barbecue.”**

In a chatroom discussion with another 17-year-old in Bavaria on the eve of the shooting spree, Tim Kretschmer gave an explicit warning of his deadly plan, said Heribert Rech, interior minister of the state of Baden-Wuerttemberg.

“I’ve had enough,” Rech quoted from the chatroom message.

“Always the same. Everybody’s laughing at me. No one sees my potential. I’m serious. I have weapons and I will go to my former school in the morning and have a proper barbecue. Maybe I’ll get away. Listen out. You will hear of me to-

## Father may face charges

• German authorities are looking into whether to press charges against Tim Kretschmer’s father, a member of a shooting club who had 15 guns and 4,600 rounds of ammunition at home.

• The other 14 guns were locked in a gun-closet as required by German law but a 9-millimetre Beretta Kretschmer used in the shootings was kept in the father’s bedroom, police said.

morrow. Remember the place’s name: Winnenden.”

Rech told reporters that Kretschmer’s chatroom partner had not taken the message seriously at the time but had told his father after he saw reports of the shootings.

Kretschmer, described by neighbours as a loner with a fondness for violent videos, shot dead 12 people at his old school in the southern town of Winnenden and three more outside before turning the gun on himself when police cornered him.

Officials revealed on Thursday that Kretschmer had received psychiatric treatment for depression between April and September, before breaking off the sessions.

The motive for the attack remained unclear, although he seems to have targeted women. Eight of the nine students and all three of the teachers he killed in the school were female.

Investigators said on Thursday they had found pornographic pictures on his computer as well as violent video games. **REUTERS**

## Italian ‘vampire’ discovered by researchers

**PLAGUE** Italian researchers believe they have found the remains of a female “vampire” in Venice, buried with a brick jammed between her jaws to prevent her feeding on victims of a plague, which swept the city in the 16th

century.

Matteo Borrini, an anthropologist from the University of Florence, said the discovery on the small island of Lazzaretto Nuovo in the Venice lagoon supported the medieval belief that vampires were behind

the spread of plagues like the Black Death.

“This is the first time that archeology has succeeded in reconstructing the ritual of exorcism of a vampire,” Borrini told Reuters by telephone. **REUTERS**

## India A celebration of colours



Men and women play huranga in Dauji temple near the Indian town of Mathura on Thursday. Huranga is a game played between men and women a day after the Holi, festival of colours, during which men drench women with liquid colours and women tear off the clothes of the men. **K.K. ABORA/REUTERS**

## Astronauts take shelter from tiny space debris

**STATION** The three astronauts aboard the International Space Station briefly evacuated to a Russian escape ship Thursday when a tiny piece of space debris came too close for comfort, NASA said.

The astronauts, Russian Yury Lonchakov and Americans Michael Fincke and Sandra Magnus, were in the Soyuz spacecraft for about nine minutes before the debris passed and the space station was deemed safe to re-enter.

The debris was a “very tiny piece” — just under a

centimetre — of an old “payload assist motor” that was previously on either a Delta rocket or the space shuttle, NASA spokesperson Laura Rochon said.

“The crew is safe and back in the space station and they are resuming normal operations,” Rochon said. “They were in the capsule about nine minutes.”

Space junk is considered a threat to the International Space Station, which has been continuously manned since November 2000.

**REUTERS**

## News in brief

**RELIGION** The United States told the United Nations on Thursday some Muslim countries were using the concept of religious defamation to justify curbs on freedom of speech and civil dissent.

**DUBAI** A Dubai court began a hearing against three members of the emirate’s ruling family after a businessman sought compensation for the alleged seizure of his firm.

**NORTH KOREA** If North Korea follows through on its plans to launch a satellite next month, it will jeopardize the stability of the Pacific Rim region, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said Thursday. **REUTERS**

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# Comment & Views

## Comment

# Lawless loan rip-off

## Marketplace

Erica Johnson

metronews.ca/johnson

When Floyd Girouard needed a loan recently, he went to the bank where he'd been a longtime customer. But this trucker from Abbotsford, B.C., says because he didn't own his house, or any other collateral, the bank turned him down.

So Girouard turned to the Internet, and found a "loan company" willing to loan him \$30,000 — with a hitch. The company told Girouard his credit history was poor, so he had to give them a 10 per cent deposit

before they'd release the loan. Girouard reluctantly wired them \$3,000, and never heard from the company again.

Turns out, the company was a scam. It's illegal to ask for an upfront payment for a loan. And that company is just one of hundreds that have exploded on the Internet, cashing in on vulnerable people applying for loans in these tough economic times. Last year, scammers like this bilked Canadians out of an estimated \$60-million dollars.

Trouble is, the scammers know all the tricks of the trade, so people easily get sucked in. They run professional-

## On the web

### Phoney lenders:

• Check out tips to help you spot fraudulent loan companies on metronews.ca/johnson

looking websites, with catchy graphics and simple instructions for applying for a loan. They give addresses (usually in the United States, but they're often based in Canada). And when we checked out some of those addresses in highrise office buildings, the suites had been empty for months, or didn't actually exist. They use 1-800 numbers that are hard to trace, and were likely purchased online using phony identification. Their websites are often hosted on servers in other countries, which makes shutting them down time consuming. And by the time police investigate, these rip-off loan companies have shut down and reopened under another name.

Just east of Toronto, Durham police recently

busted an online loan scam they claim had ripped people off to the tune of \$2 million. Inside houses and apartments they found computers, cellphones, paper shredders and phony loan documents — everything needed to sucker innocent people desperate for a loan.

So, what to watch out for if you're looking for a loan online? Never trust a "loan company" that guarantees a loan even if you have bad credit.

Stay away from a "loan company" that asks for an upfront payment (like a security deposit, premium, or insurance). And definitely run if the "loan company" asks for a payment to be wired via Western Union or Money Gram.

Floyd Girouard wishes it wasn't a \$3,000 lesson. "I haven't had the best of luck on finances my entire life," he says. "And I just ... sat back in my chair and cried."

Erica Johnson is a journalist and co-host of CBC News: Marketplace, Canada's award-winning consumer affairs show. CBC News: Marketplace airs each Friday night at 8:30 p.m. on CBC Television.

## Views

# Governance problems affecting city hall

## UrbanCompass

Steve Collins

metronews.ca/collins

Is city hall broken? Some knowledgeable people seem to think so.

Last month, Coun. Clive Doucet, with his typical courtesy (if perhaps just a smidge of passive aggression) suggested it was time to let rural residents out of the city's government, citing irreconcilable city-country differences and the ultimate failure of amalgamation.

Last week, we heard even gloomier tidings from the Mayor's Taskforce on Governance: "City council does not

operate effectively and cannot provide the strategic leadership the City of Ottawa needs because of systemic problems with governance. Without addressing governance shortcomings, council will remain ineffective..."

The report lists a litany of problems, from the divide between urban and rural wards, to infighting between councillors, the mayor and staff, to micromanaging, buck-passing, parochialism, blurred lines of accountability and a lack of long-term strategic planning.

Singled out for particular wonkish disdain was the current budget process, subject to too much input from

the peanut gallery, which "often leads to penny-wise, pound-foolish results."

The task force suggests a "top-down" approach, with year-round budgetary planning by a designated committee, instead of the annual clamour of meetings in December.

Admittedly, the public submissions on the budget can be a mixed bag.

But citizens step up to the microphone and say their piece, and last time, organized public opposition helped ward off cuts to arts funding which would have devastated local programs while producing negligible budget savings, the very definition of

penny-wise, pound-foolish.

City hall is a place of argument, deal-making and occasional head-butting. It gets loud and messy, sometimes embarrassingly so, but it can only be so streamlined and tidied.

Sure, our government would be much more efficient if citizens were kept from sticking their noses in, councillors sat down and shut up and what the mayor said just went, but what would such efficiency be worth?

I oversimplify of course, and the task force's report is packed with prescriptions to modernize city government (many concentrating power with the mayor), but we should probably keep expectations modest.

Steve Collins lives, writes and walks in Ottawa; ottawaleaders@metronews.ca.



## Worth mentioning

# Japan picks 'school girl' as cute ambassador

Ever seen an ambassador dressed from head to foot in pastel frills? How about a diplomatic envoy in a mini-skirted school uniform?

In a bid to raise its international profile, Tokyo has appointed three young women as cultural envoys because they represent Japan's long-running craze for all things cute.

Inspired by the characters in Japan's distinctive "anime" animated films and "manga" cartoon books, one of the new ambassadors dresses as a schoolgirl, another as a Victorian doll in voluminous frilly skirts.

The third woman, presented at a news conference Thursday, was a singer

dressed in a polka-dot shirt with a bunny print, offset by bouffant back-combed hair, a look that has made her a

fashion leader in Tokyo teens' favourite haunt, Harajuku.

Japan wants to exploit the popularity of the "kawaii" (cute) culture, which has influenced young people in Asia and Europe.

The envoys, chosen for the clothes they choose to wear in their everyday lives, said they believed their styles would last.

Actress Shizuka Fujioka, 19, wears a school uniform even though she's graduated because she felt she missed out by going to a school with an ugly uniform.

"Every female from small girls to grandmothers loves pretty clothes," said nurse and part-time model Misako Aoki, now ambassador for the doll-like "Gothic Lolita" style.

The appointment of the three envoys comes a year after Doraemon, a rotund blue cartoon cat with no ears, was named a special ambassador.

REUTERS

## Metro Online Poll Results

64% SAID YES

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**Sirius XM to roll out iPhone application**

Sirius XM Radio Inc. is looking to expand the reach of its satellite radio service with the second-quarter launch of an iPhone application as it explores a potential marketing partnership with satellite TV provider DirecTV Group. **REUTERS**

**11**

# Business

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

## Banks predict deeper recession for Canada

2010 rebound seen to be dependent on U.S.

**Canada's economy may face greater pressure and a deeper recession, an unfortunate bystander of economic weakness that has spanned the globe, two Canadian banks predicted yesterday.**

No economic recovery can occur without stabilization in the United States, to which the Canadian economy is closely tied, and without improved world financial conditions, TD Bank said.

TD now expects the U.S. recession to extend to the third quarter, leading to a 3.1 per cent contraction for

**"The timing of a return to prosperity is difficult to pinpoint."**

Royal Bank of Canada

2009, compared with the 1.6 per cent contraction it forecast in December.

Canada's economy shrank at an annualized rate of 3.4 per cent in the fourth quarter, its worst performance since the last recession in 1991.

Both economies are expected to expand next year, with the U.S. economy growing by 1.4 per cent and

Canada expanding by 1.3 per cent, TD said.

Meanwhile, Royal Bank of Canada said it expects Canada's real gross domestic product to contract 1.4 per cent in 2009, then rebound to grow 2.6 per cent in 2010.

The U.S. faces a 2.4 per cent contraction in 2009, but 2.2 per cent growth next year, RBC said.

"There's no denying that the current economic environment is troubling and that the timing of a return to prosperity is difficult to pinpoint," RBC said.

**REUTERS****In brief**

**TELECOM** Nortel Networks Corp. is still working on a strategy that will see it emerge from bankruptcy protection, even as the beleaguered telecom-equipment maker mulls which of its assets to sell to narrow its focus, a source said yesterday.

**U.S.** Households suffered a record-large nine per cent drop in wealth and pared debt in the fourth quarter as a deepening recession battered confidence and finances in the U.S., Federal Reserve data showed yesterday.

**POTASH** BHP Billiton plans a potash mine in Canada that would be the world's largest, but the ever-hungry market seems set to cope with the extra supply without a price-depressing glut. **REUTERS**

## Madoff Guilty plea entered



Madoff victim Miriam Siegman celebrates as she exits the Manhattan federal courthouse in New York yesterday. Bernard Madoff, who pleaded guilty to fraud yesterday in one of the largest Ponzi schemes in history, will exchange his penthouse for a jail cell while he awaits sentencing, scheduled for June 16.

BRENDAN MCDELMID/REUTERS

## Rivals fighting over airwaves

**WIRELESS** Would-be cell-phone carriers claim foot-dragging by incumbent operators when it comes to mandated sharing of their cell towers is threatening to delay new wireless services in Canada.

A recent submission by Quebecor Media Inc. to Industry Canada argues that the federal department needs to set up compliance guidelines to ensure the Big Three wireless operators — Bell Canada Inc., Rogers Communications

**Background**

- Tower and site-sharing provisions were included as part of the federal government's auction of wireless airwaves last year to get new players up and running.

Inc. and Telus Corp. — live up to their obligations to lease available space on their cell towers to new entrants.

Quebecor has said it plans to invest up to \$1 billion over the next four years in a "state-of-the-art" high-speed wireless network, and claims that its initial build-out requires the activation of "hundreds" of cell sites, "a significant fraction of which" could be shared with incumbent operators.

Globalive Wireless and Data & Audio-Visual Enterprises Wireless Inc. have levelled similar complaints. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

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# Sports

EDITOR: JOHN.CHICK@METRONEWS.CA

## Carleton, U of O headline Final 8

### The court is set for the 2009 Final 8 CIS Men's Basketball Championships.

The OUA champion and hometown Carleton Ravens enter the tournament at Scotiabank Place as the top seed followed by the No. 2 Calgary Dinos, No. 3 UBC Thunderbirds, No. 4 Western Ontario Mustangs, No. 5 Ottawa Gee-Gees (OUA

bronze medalist), No. 6 Dalhousie Tigers, No. 7 Concordia Stingers and No. 8 Saint Francis Xavier X-Men.

The Ravens are back for another shot at the national championship after a double-overtime semifinal loss to the Acadia Axemen last year.

"It's nice to be the number 1 seed, plus there's defi-

nately a level of comfort playing at Scotiabank Place," said Ravens head coach Dave Smart.

"But the reality is there are eight teams that can win this thing and Carleton happens to be one of them."

The championship final is slated for Sunday at 4 p.m. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

## "It's like cancer. That's what he was. Cancer. He had to go."

Red Sox closer Jonathan Papelbon, left, in the April issue of Esquire magazine, on Manny Ramirez's final few months in Boston last season. Ramirez had demanded a trade and was dealt to the Los Angeles Dodgers in July. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

## Senators fall short

### NHL RESULT

Senators 3 Bruins 5



VS



**THE SKINNY:** Ottawa gave a valiant effort against the Bruins, especially in the final frame, but a pair of three-goal leads proved to be too much for the Senators to overcome, and they were handed their first loss in five games.

### PIZZA LINE SERVED UP

**HOT:** Dany Heatley, Jason Spezza and Daniel Alfredsson combined for six points. Spezza had a pair of goals while Heatley and Alfie collected two assists each.

**THE ENFORCER:** Chris Neil suited up in Boston after missing 15 games with a leg injury.

### WINLESS IN BEANTOWN:

The Senators finish the regular season without a win at Boston in four visits.



Ottawa Senators goaltender Alex Auld gets beaten for a goal in the first period against the Bruins in Boston Thursday.

**THE FIRST PERIOD:** The Bruins took a 3-0 lead with a power-play, shorthanded and even-strength goal.

### POST-PENALTY KILLERS:

P.J. Axelsson and Aaron Ward scored for Boston seconds after leaving the Bruins penalty box.

### THE PUNCHUP:

Neil and Boston's Milan Lucic had a great bout in the opening twenty minutes.

**THE NIGHT AFTER:** The Bruins are 11-0 this season versus

teams that have played the night before. Ottawa defeated Tampa Bay on Wednesday night before travelling to Boston for yesterday night's match.

### MILESTONE GAME:

Ottawa forward Ryan Shannon suited up in his 100th career NHL game yesterday night.

**THE NEXT GAME:** The Senators travel to Pittsburgh on Saturday for an afternoon game against the Penguins.

**MIKE BEASLEY/ FOR METRO OTTAWA**

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## Bronze for Groves in Richmond

**Dutch speedskater Renate Gronewold had to pause to take a telephone call during the news conference that followed her victory in the women's 3,000 metres in Richmond, B.C., yesterday.**

It was her prime minister on the line. That's the way it works in the Netherlands, where this week's World Single Distances Speed Skating Championships will be watched

with the same fervour attached to the Stanley Cup Finals here.

"He just wanted to congratulate me with my world title," Gronewold said of Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende.

Canada was well represented on the podium by Ottawa's Kristina



Groves, who won bronze behind Martina Sablikova of the Czech Republic.

Groves won five medals at last year's worlds and has four races to go at the new Richmond Oval.

Groves, 32, applauded Gronewold on her win.

"She pulls out races like this on a regular basis," Groves said.

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**Inter manager Mourinho accused of assault**

Inter Milan manager Jose Mourinho is under investigation for allegedly punching a fan Wednesday. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

sports **13**

# Something worth celebrating in soccer

Just**Soccer**

Ben Rycroft

metronews.ca/justsoccer



Canadians Amy Walsh, Brittany Timko and Jodi-Ann Robinson during the 2008 Olympics in Beijing.

Years of men's national team disappointments, along with the mind boggling frustrations of Canadian soccer bureaucracy, have given plenty of soccer people plenty of reason to be negative over the years.

That cynicism hit its peak last year when the men's national squad ungracefully bowed out from World Cup qualifying.

It was widely considered the strongest team in a generation and the dramatic underperformances by players and coaches alike has led to a lot of finger pointing since.

There are plenty of problems (only one warm-up game for the men's national side before the Gold Cup? Come on CSA, you can do better) but, frankly, it's time to stop dwelling on the negative.

There is plenty to celebrate in Canadian soccer — like the women's national

team.

Scoff if you want, but under the new direction of Italian coach **Carolina Morace**, the women's squad, who are presently rolling past their competition at the Cyprus Cup, is looking every bit a contender for their World Cup in 2011.

Who cares about a women's World Cup?

Well over a million people attended the 2007 World Cup held in China. The average game attendance topped 36,000. Safe to say a few people cared.

And, to put that in perspective — the average attendance, thus far, at the

Men's World Baseball Classic has been a paltry 21,000 — meaning women's soccer is more popular than men's baseball. It's something to think about.

Morace has brought a level of tactical knowledge that has been missing in Canadian soccer for some time and with her at the helm, players like **Amy Walsh** (who just played her 100th international game for Canada) and **Christine Sinclair** (rapidly approaching 100 international goals scored) will be well positioned when the journey towards the women's World Cup begins next week.

NHL **Take a seat**

Dmitri Kalinin of the Phoenix Coyotes hits the boards battling with Bobby Holik and Mike Rupp of the New Jersey Devils Thursday. The Devils won 5-2, leaving goalie Martin Brodeur one win away from tying Patrick Roy's career wins record.

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# STOP THE GENOCIDE OF TAMILS IN SRI LANKA

*A humanitarian catastrophe is unfolding in Sri Lanka.*



Human Rights Watch accused Sri Lanka's government of "callous indifference" towards the estimated 250,000 civilians trapped on the frontline.

Hospitals and "safe zones" have been targeted and destroyed by this shelling.

"The United Nations said that cluster bombs had been used to hit the last functioning hospital in the Tigers' territory."  
— timesonline.co.uk

"We're shocked that the hospital was hit,"  
— Paul Castella, ICRC

"Sri Lankan forces are shelling hospitals and so-called safe zones and slaughtering the civilians there."  
— James Ross, Human Right Watch

Sri Lanka expelled UN agencies and international NGOs from the areas.

Amnesty condemns 'war without witnesses' as journalists prevented from reporting the conflict.  
— amnesty.org.uk



With no independent observers to report on the events, the Sri Lankan government is systematically killing the Tamil civilians.

"The lack of access for independent monitors, humanitarian workers and the media only adds to concerns that the situation may be even worse than we realise,"  
— U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay

The refugees are detained in concentration camps with many young men and women being taken away, never to be seen again.

The Sri Lankan government has been denounced over plans to forcibly detain thousands of Tamil civilians fleeing the country's civil war in "concentration camps".  
— www.telegraph.co.uk

The Sri Lankan government has refused all calls for ceasefire.

"Hillary Clinton and David Miliband call for Sri Lanka ceasefire with Tamils"



"Sri Lanka rejects international call for ceasefire"  
— Guardian, UK

"At least 2,000 civilians had been killed in recent weeks."  
— HRW

"Who can protect Tamil civilians?"  
— Robert Evans MEP

People have starved to death...  
"The top government health official in the rebel pocket told The Associated Press on Thursday that 13 people — most of them elderly — had died from starvation in the previous week."  
— Associated Press

Additional Protocol I of 1977 to the Four Geneva Conventions of 1949 provides:  
Starvation of civilians as a method of warfare is prohibited.

"Forced starvation constitutes an act of Genocide"  
— Prof. Boyle University of Illinois College of Law

**WE CANNOT ALLOW THIS CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY TO CONTINUE.**  
**As Canadians we have a moral duty to stop this ongoing tragedy before it is too late!**



## PLEASE ACT NOW

Please contact Peace Activists, Human Right Groups, MPs, Media and Policymakers to call on the Canadian Government to urge the Sri Lankan Government to:

- Call for an immediate ceasefire so that food & medical aid can reach the civilians
- Lift the embargo on food, medicine and other essential items to the Tamil areas
- Allow International NGOs and Independent media into the affected areas
- Support the establishment of a UN Monitoring Mission in Sri Lanka



## BACKGROUND

Tamils have legitimate political aspirations in their own land as the original inhabitants of Sri Lanka and have inalienable right to govern themselves within their traditional homeland.

Tamils and Sinhalese had their own kingdoms before the arrival of Europeans to Sri Lanka. The British merged the Tamil kingdom with the Sinhalese kingdom in 1833 for administrative purposes. British gave Ceylon independence in 1948, handing over control of the entire island to a Sinhalese government.

Post-independent disenfranchisement of Tamils had reduced their voting power from 33% to 20% in the legislature. Since then, the traditional Tamil homeland has been systematically colonized by the state to change the demography. Sinhalese was made the official language and Tamils were discriminated

against from obtaining employment. In 1971, admission to university based on merit was abandoned and "standardization" was introduced to force Tamil students to score higher marks to attain university admission.

Ceylon was renamed to the Sinhalese name Sri Lanka. Buddhism was afforded foremost recognition and made the state religion.

Many accords — to decentralize powers to Tamils — signed between Federal Tamil leaders and Sinhalese leaders were not honoured due to pressure from the Sinhalese people and then abrogated. Pogroms after pogroms were perpetrated against Tamils to destroy their economy, culture, language, education, land and their own existence.

Repeated state-sponsored violence led to the Tamil youth

taking up arms to protect their people. Over 200,000 people have died in the civil war since 1983 and more than half the Tamil population has fled Sri Lanka or are refugees in their land. This is nothing less than a systematic "Nazi style" genocide being perpetrated against the Tamil population. It has all the trappings of a holocaust: mandatory registration of Tamils with the police, forced relocation of Tamils from their homes, confinement of displaced Tamils in concentration camps far away from their homeland. Young Tamil males and females are rounded up for questioning, never to return.

Despite the international community's outcry, Sri Lanka unilaterally abrogated the Norwegian-facilitated ceasefire and has been waging this bloody war against Tamil civilians.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: CONCERNED TAMILS OF OTTAWA**

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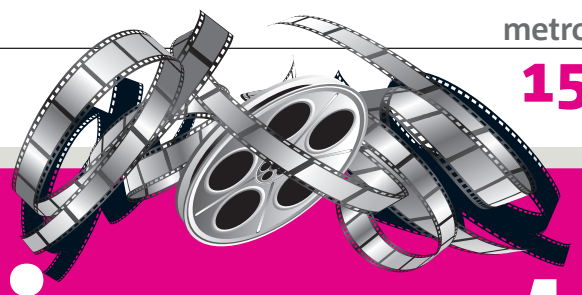


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# Movies & Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

## Movies

### Leaping into love Pg 18



Nothing is entertaining today's masses more than platonic romances between dudes. The latest entry in this odd subgenre is the explicitly titled *I Love You, Man* — starring Jason Segal and Paul Rudd as the two men set for bromance.

## movies Pg 18



Last House reveals in its explicit violence.

## music Pg 24



This East Coast sextet may crown their best year yet.

## entertainment Pg 28



Canadian designers crafted Britney's touring costumes.

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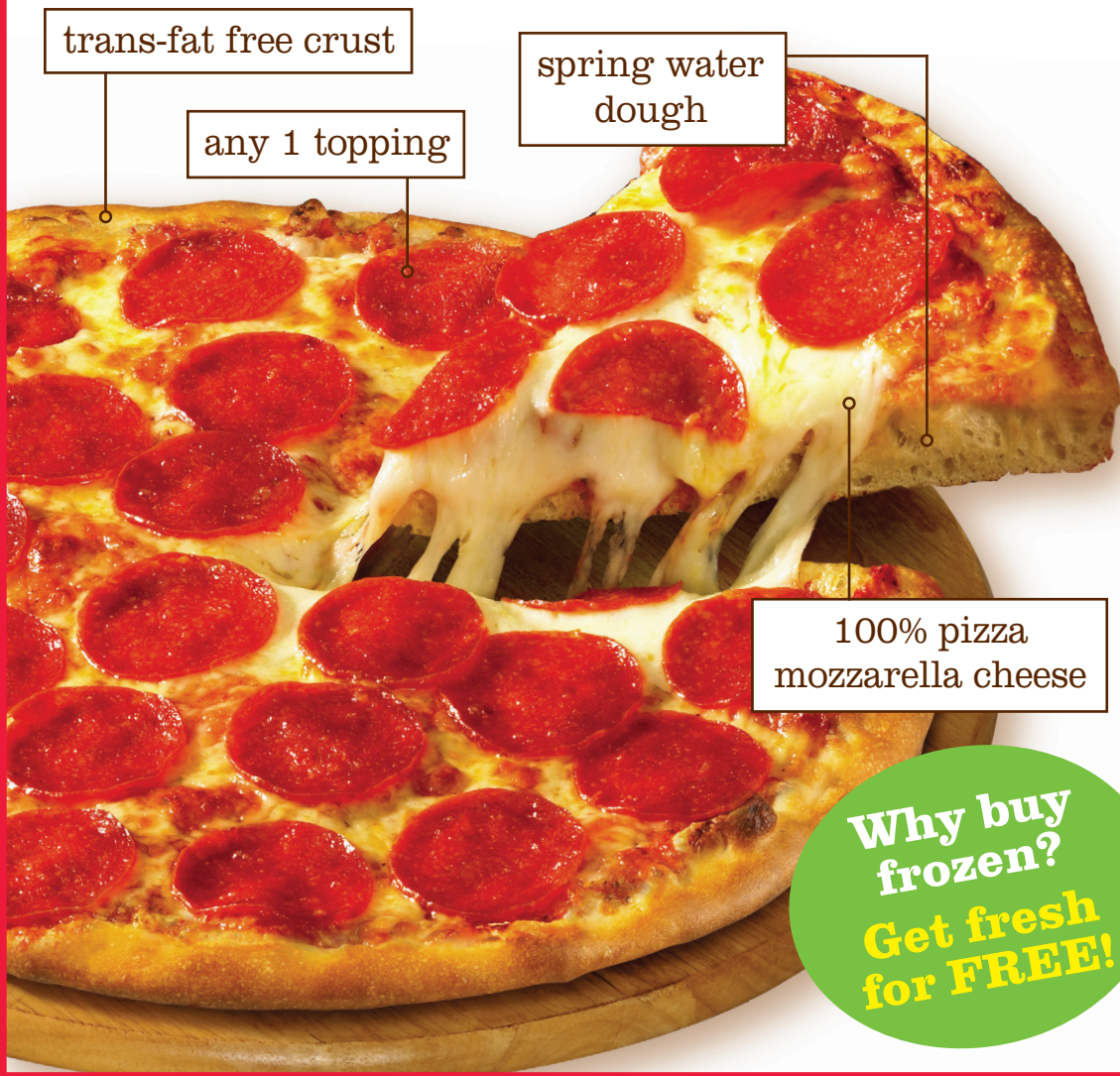


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Movies

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Dude, where's my hug?

Rudd, Segel turn on the platonic romance in I Love You, Man

PHIL BROWN  
for Metro Canada

In these trying times audiences crave escape and nothing is entertaining to-day's masses more than platonic romances between dudes. The latest entry in this odd subgenre is the explicitly titled I Love You, Man — opening next Friday.

The film stars Paul Rudd (Role Models) and Jason Segel (Forgetting Sarah Marshall), who are pleased to be in a film that accurately depicts male friendships as awkward, honest, and rewarding rather than an emotionally empty haven for dirty talk and booze.

"I hope the movie shatters stereotypes and breaks down the barriers that will allow men to hug without patting," says Segel, who is quick to point out that the movie is equally realistic toward how women relate to each other.

"I've met ex-girlfriends' friends who have said things like 'I know about you, Mr. One Ball,'" says Segel, ironically clarifying, "It was a soccer accident."

"I think women are much dirtier when they're talking to their friends than men and we confront that. Paul's character is an emotionally stifled guy towards men and not women, which I've never



Jason Segel and Paul Rudd get comfortable with male bonding in the comedy I Love You, Man.

Movie feature

seen in a movie before."

Rudd plays a character who has dedicated so much time to his girlfriends that he doesn't have a single male friend to be the best man at his wedding. This leads to an awkward series of mandates to fill the position.

The movie is filled with scenes that milk awkwardness for laughs. To increase the realism, director John Hamburg (Safe Men) encouraged improv-

"I hope the movie shatters stereotypes and breaks down the barriers that will allow men to hug without patting."

Actor Jason Segel

sation.

"Awkward comedy is best when you're not thinking about what you're trying to say or memorizing anything," Rudd says.

Segel agrees, pointing to an improvised scene in which their characters hang out for the first time.

"I think that scene works best in improv because you want genuine laughs from the actors. You want the moment where he's taking a sip of beer and I intentionally do an Andre The Giant impression to force a spit take."

Segel and Rudd get plenty of laughs as the leads,

but Hamburg also stacked the supporting cast with comedy talent, ensuring that every scene is packed with hilarity.

Everyone involved with the project is deservedly proud, especially Rudd.

"In the best possible scenario, I hope that people look back on this as the film that finally stopped world hunger, created world peace, and brought us peacefully and lovingly into the 22nd century," he said.

House of violence, bloody violence

The Last House on the Left

Director: Dennis Iliadis  
Stars: Sara Paxton, Tony Goldwyn  
Classification: 18  
Rating: ●

KEVIN COURRIER  
for Metro Canada

REVIEW There are perhaps few things more contemptible, or dishonest, than violence put in the service of sanctimony.

The Last House on the Left, a remake of Wes Craven's 1972 low-budget exercise in brutal sadism, certainly delivers on the carnage. Only director Dennis Iliadis turns the whole sodden affair ultimately into a tribute to good ol' family values.

Borrowing loosely from Craven's barely serviceable plot, Last House centres on a gang of hoodlums who kidnap two young women in a remote rural retreat.

They viciously rape and shoot one, while slowly gutting the other to death with a knife. Although Mari (Sara Paxton) is bleeding profusely from her gunshot wound, she has the fortitude to swim home to her family.

Before she gets there, though, the gang has already arrived seeking shelter. They don't know that the occupants are Mari's parents, John (Tony Goldwyn), a decent middle-class doctor and his caring wife, Emma (Monica Potter). When her parents ultimately discover the nature of their deeds, they take violent revenge on the killers.

Craven, who served as producer on the remake, describes Last House as being about "the painful side effects of revenge." Who's he kidding? The picture spends more time inflicting pain than contemplating any of its side effects. Its claim to humanism is but another form of rape.

Overplayed gags ruin Miss March

Miss March

Director: Trevor Moore, Zach Cregger  
Stars: Trevor Moore, Zach Cregger  
Classification: 18  
Rating: ●

STEVE GOW  
for Metro Canada

REVIEW I have a suspicion that comic actors Trevor Moore and Zach Cregger might actually be funny — but you'd never know it by watching the duo's big-screen debut in Miss March.

An unoriginal and gratingly unfunny road-trip movie, Miss March simply

On the web

- To see a Miss March trailer, or for local screen times, visit [metronews.ca/movies](#)

tells the story of a high-school virgin (Cregger) who, after slipping into a ridiculous four-year coma, is awakened by his baseball bat-wielding buddy (Moore) — a dull-headed annoyance who dates an epileptic because "it's kind of hot; she vibrates."

Discovering his teenage sweetheart has since become a Playboy bunny, the pals hit the highway in an attempt to track down the oh-so lucky gal at Hugh



A scene from comedy Miss March, where a teen goes in search of his Playboy bunny sweetheart.

Hefner's mansion. Yawn.

Now you may be wondering, how did two members of a little-known Internet sketch troupe called the Whitest Kids U' Know get handed the keys to their own movie? I'm not sure. It certainly isn't evident on the screen.

Loaded with tasteless sex jokes, derivative gimmicks and an especially lame appearance by Hefner (who is obviously reading from a cue card), Miss March may grab the attention of a few teens, but even they'll quickly grow weary of these overplayed gags.

If you really want to see the duo's promise, look up some of Moore and Cregger's YouTube videos. If their movie was even half as clever as this homemade promotional sketch, maybe their future in filmmaking wouldn't look like it was about to slip into a coma.

On the web

- To see a Last House on the Left trailer, or for local screen times, visit [metronews.ca/movies](#)



**Johansson turns Russian spy in Iron Man sequel**

It looks like Iron Man will be facing off against a Scarlett Widow, as Scarlett Johansson has confirmed she has signed on to play the Russian spy Natasha Romanoff in the sequel. **EMPIREONLINE.COM**

**Movies**

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

## Kutcher's new film hits close to life

**ROLE** At 31, actor Ashton Kutcher has learned how not to count years or think about age differences in people.

Kutcher, who stars in an independent movie Personal Effects playing in New York on Monday, said he and wife Demi Moore, 46, pay no attention to the 15-year gap between them, and he rarely thinks about his own age.

But Kutcher and Moore, a star of movies like Bobby and G.I. Jane, have been the subject of plenty of talk in Hollywood about their age difference since their 2005 marriage, and his latest movie role also delves into similar territory.

In Personal Effects, Kutcher's college-age wrestler, Walter, is in a relationship with an older woman, a widow and mother named Linda played by Michelle Pfeiffer, 50.

REUTERS

# Nothing new in this Race

## Race to Witch Mountain

**Director:** Andy Fickman

**Stars:** Dwayne Johnson, Anna-Sophia Robb

**Classification:** PG

**Rating:** ●●½

**STEVE GOW**

for Metro Canada

### There are two things Disney did right with their latest family film Race to Witch Mountain.

First, by re-visiting the popular hit Escape to Witch Mountain, the Mouse House will surely attract many-a-parent who grew up fascinated by the 1975 classic. Second, they hired Dwayne (The Rock) Johnson, the former wrestling champ who has begun to establish himself a formidable attraction for kids in hits like The Game Plan.

While those two elements will surely be enough to put Witch



Dwayne Johnson, right, AnnaSophia Robb and Alexander Ludwig star in Race to Witch Mountain.

Mountain ahead in the box-office race this weekend, the movie doesn't hold the kitschy appeal of its source of inspiration.

A hasty adventure set in Las Vegas, the story begins when cab driver Jack

Bruno (Johnson) picks up two teens (AnnaSophia Robb, Alexander Ludwig) whose strange behaviour would only be excusable if they were extraterrestrials (alas, they are!).

When he learns that gov-

ernment agents and a dangerous alien bounty hunter called a Siphon are on their tail, Bruno is convinced to help the pair save the planet.

Directed by Andy Fickman (The Game Plan), Race

## On the web



• To see a Race to Witch Mountain trailer, or for local screen times, visit [metronews.ca/movies](http://metronews.ca/movies)

to Witch Mountain definitely plays down the charm and amps up the action on its namesake. From the opening minutes, the movie is basically all about the thrill of the chase.

Sure, the effect-heavy drama has its share of entertaining explosions and near-collisions but these sequences offer little in the way of anything fresh.

Still, while nostalgic adults may have to suffer through Johnson's attempts to tiptoe around clunky dialogue, the kiddies will likely revel in the spooky Siphon and the cathartic thrill of it all. Hey, it worked for Disney in 1975 after all.

## Knowing the near future

**STEVE GOW**  
for Metro Canada

**FEATURE** You might call this the Year of the Catastrophe. Now I don't intend to sound morbidly pessimistic but with the dwindling economy and a mass of overwhelming global issues, it's sadly a notion that may cut close to the bone for some.

More so, with a handful of bleak films coming out this year (including next Friday's release of Knowing) it would seem Hollywood filmmakers aren't holding out much hope either. Or are they?

"I feel like we're in a period of history when we're never really sure where the bad stuff is going to come from," said Knowing director Alex Proyas during a recent interview in New York.

"Whenever a horrible event happens, it seems to take us all by surprise and we reel in horror but we're also aghast at the fact we didn't see it coming. I think the movie is very much a product of its time."

Starring Nicolas Cage as a professor who discovers a document that appears to predict every major disaster of the past five decades, the mystery of the scripture unfolds when



Nicolas Cage plays a professor in Knowing.

### "I think the movie is very much a product of its time."

Director Alex Proyas

he suspects the final clue points to what might be the end of the world.

"We're living in stressful times — global warming, tensions between countries — all these things are very present right now," admitted Cage. "So what all artists try to do intuitively is be relevant and grapple with or redefine or make sense of what's going on."

Knowing does not stand alone in 2009 among provocative films steeped in bleak premonitions either. Roland Emmerich's apocalyptic thriller 2012;

the dreary drama The Road and even Terminator: Salvation are all be soon-to-be-released chronicles of a grim near-future. In such a recessive climate however, it is still to be determined how the public (who often see movies to escape from reality) will accept this new trend — a concern not lost on the star of Knowing.

"Personally, I don't have a problem with escapist entertainment," admitted Cage.

"I think it's good for you and I want to contribute in that but I also want to make movies that can hopefully get you talking afterwards and have some interesting conversations about the big questions. How you choose to receive that is up to you."

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Rolling Stone  
 "DAZZLING!"  
 PETER TRAVERS

USA TODAY  
 "A VISUAL MARVEL!"  
 CLAUDIA PUIG

**Coraline**

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 AND NEWBERY AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR NEIL GAIMAN

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 DAKOTA FANNING TERI HATCHER JOHN HODGMAN AND IAN MCSHANE

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(ALLIANCEFILMS.COM)



## Reel Time

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

## Silver screen gold for tough times

PHIL BROWN  
for Metro Canada

**Shame about that whole recession thing, isn't it? Last year you were basking in your economic glory and picked up a plasma television thinking**

**that the ludicrous balance in your chequing account would never go down.**

Now that account is overdrawn and the gigantic TV is currently the fourth wall in the damaged cardboard box you call a home. No sir, things aren't going well — but on the plus side you

can still watch DVDs.

In these trying times we're happy to present a list of films that will hopefully make the recession slide by a little easier.

**MONEY IS THE ROOT OF ALL EVIL**

Sure, some extra money

would be nice right about now, but never forget how quickly good fortune can transform into murderous greed. Just ask William H. Macy's character in the Coen Brothers' *Fargo*. His good intentions to increase the family nest egg lead to imprisonment, a murdered

## Riding the Recession

wife, a dead father-in-law, and a "funny lookin" guy in a wood chipper. Then of course there are Bill Paxton and Billy Bob Thornton's downtrodden rural brothers in *A Simple Plan*. They planned to better their lower class existence with a bag of stolen drug money only to be surrounded by a pile of corpses and useless marked bills.

The history of cinema is filled with such stories. Not even Humphrey Bogart could avoid that fate in *The Treasure Of The Sierra Madre*. Seriously, if Bogie can't overcome the perils of greed, what hope do you have?

## MONEY CAN'T BUY HAPPINESS

Even if you can manage to get your hands on some coin without killing your closest friends, you might find that all the cash will only make you miserable in a bigger house.

The go-to choice for "the greatest film of all time" taught us that. Charles Foster Kane (a.k.a. *Citizen Kane*) may have acquired a mountain of money and a personal museum of the world's finest treasures, but none of it bought back the joy of riding on an oddly named sled at his poor parents' farm. More recently Daniel Day Lewis scored a shelf full of awards for his remarkable portrayal of an inordinate-

ly competitive oilman whose insatiable drive for wealth left him alone and insane.

## IT COULD BE WORSE

If seeing the evils money can cause isn't enough to scare you off the green stuff, you can always take solace in the fact that there's some poor sucker out there worse off than you.

John Ford's perennial classic *The Grapes Of Wrath* depicts a family destroyed by the Great Depression whose poverty is so extreme that not even blue-eyed Henry Fonda can overcome it.

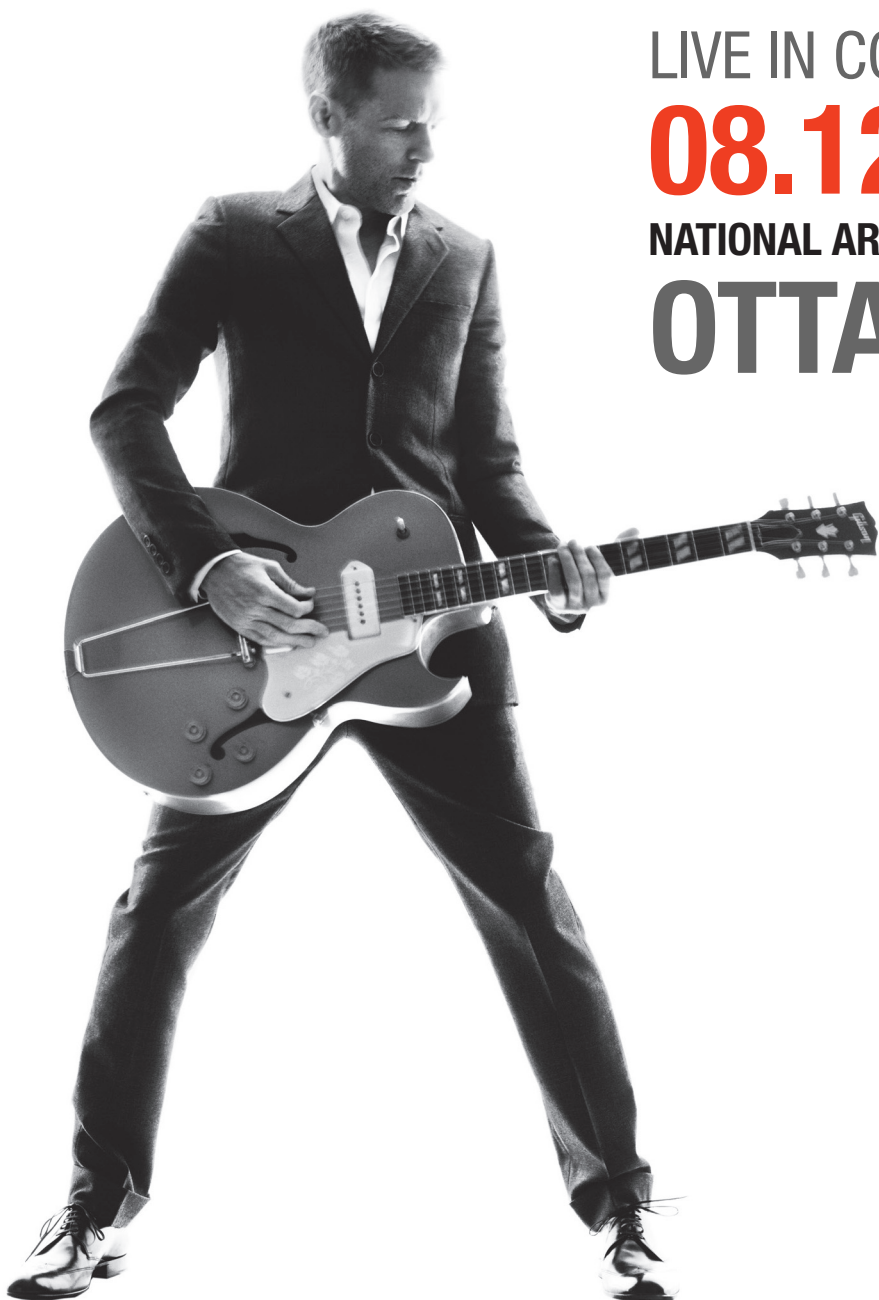
In more contemporary times, Fernando Meirelles' *City Of God* showed a Brazilian slum in such a dire economic state that pre-teen kids found themselves turning to crime.

## POVERTY CHIC

And finally, if nothing else will ease the pain at least you can find comfort in a few memorable films that prove you can be both soul crushingly broke and damn cool. *Slumdog Millionaire* found Oscar gold in a story of a boy whose charmingly poor upbringing lead directly to a million dollar bank account and true love. Poverty peddler Kevin Smith gave us *Clerks*, a movie about a group of minimum wage slaves who might wear used cloths and still live in their parents' house, but are still capable of making witty pop culture references that you only wish you could manage.



Orson Welles' magnum opus *Citizen Kane* is a good example of the maxim that money can't always buy happiness.

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**Jericho to return as comic book**

After a year of begging for more Jericho, fans are going to get their wish ... kind of. The cancelled CBS show will return as a comic book. **REUTERS**

**Reel Time**

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

**Movie morsels****Confessions of a Shopaholic**

●●●½

**REVIEW** Confessions of a Shopaholic doesn't disappoint as a fluffy chick flick with a bit of a message that may be perfectly in time with the global recession. But leave your credit cards at home when you go see it. It takes some willpower to avoid the temptation to shop after being inundated with fashion eye candy for just under two hours.

Robyn Young/Metro Canada

**Coraline**

●●●½

**REVIEW** Based on a popular novel by accomplished author Neil Gaiman, Coraline is, if nothing else, a breath of fresh air in the genre of family fare. Not only is it styled in the classic gothic look mastered by its director Henry Selick in The Nightmare Before Christmas. Coraline (voiced by Dakota Fanning) is a bored

young girl who discovers a mysterious door that leads to alternate universe.

Steve Gow/Metro Canada

**Friday the 13th**

●●●

**REVIEW** When director Gus Van Sant remade Psycho back in 1998, it was slayed by critics. Although trying to recreate the Hitchcock classic shot-for-shot was a daft experiment, it was doomed to fail. You cannot recapture lightning in a bottle twice. Why even try? Friday the 13th is one so-called classic in which that strategy may have actually helped. After all, the original 1980 version was a low-budget, low-brow horror flick that looks horrific by today's standards.

Steve Gow/Metro Canada

**He's Just Not That Into You**

●●●½

**REVIEW** Warning: He's Just Not That Into You is a bad movie choice for date night. For a girl's night (or guy's

night), however, it might be just perfect. As long as you remember it's only a movie and take care not to read too much into anything — it could be hazardous to your personal life. Based on the self-help book the premise is that if a guy likes you he'll call, drop by, send flowers, ask you out and basically do anything he can to be with you.

Robyn Young/Metro Canada

**The International**

●●●½

**REVIEW** There should be no doubt that The International is a big movie. It's practically the only revealing aspect one might reason from its vague, inconclusive title. Filmed in four countries, The International may be a global thriller, but it may also be too sprawling for its own good. Interpol agent Louis Salinger (Clive Owen) has dedicated his career to taking down a powerful international bank that has been secretly dealing in financing terrorism.

Steve Gow/Metro Canada

**Paul Blart: Mall Cop**

●

**REVIEW** Paul Blart is fat. And incompetent. And clumsy. If that generic description re-

minds you of the late Chris Farley, it should. In fact, the idea for Paul Blart: Mall Cop may have been gathering a lot of dust in the "Farley Cold Case Files" at Happy Madison Productions long

before Kevin James showed up. James plays the overly ambitious security guard who has to save a mall taken over by a group of gun-wielding criminals.

Chris Alexander/Metro Canada

J O S H U A J A C K S O N



**"IF YOU SEE ONLY ONE MOVIE THIS YEAR MAKE IT *ONE WEEK*."**

- KATHLEEN BELL, SEE MAGAZINE



**"ROLLS UP THE RIM AND WINS!"**

- SUSAN G. COLE, NOW MAGAZINE

**"A GREAT LOVE LETTER TO CANADA... BRILLIANT!"**

- DYLAN YOUNG, HOUR



**"SEE *ONE WEEK*. YOU WILL NOT REGRET A MOMENT."**

- JOHN GRIFFIN, MONTREAL GAZETTE



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BONNIE LAUFER, TRIBUTE - CANADA

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## Reel Time

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

## Strange awakenings on screen

## InFocus



Richard Crouse

[metronews.ca/infocus](http://metronews.ca/infocus)

According to Wikipedia the definition of coma is "a profound state of unconsciousness." They can be caused by head trauma or any number of phenomenon and they are, as The Smiths sang in their Top 20 hit Girlfriend in a Coma, "really serious." They are also an unlikely inspiration for all manner of pop culture confections from pop songs — both Guns 'N Roses and Stone Temple Pilots have sung about them — to this weekend's Miss March, a comedy about a twenty-something who comes out of a four-year coma to find

his high-school sweetheart has become a centrefold in Playboy magazine.

The most famous movie to use a coma as a plot device is 1978's Coma. In this medical thriller Geneviève Bujold is Dr. Susan Wheeler, a surgery resident at Boston Hospital who uncovers foul play after her best friend is scheduled for a routine procedure but instead slips into a coma and dies.

Determined to discover how her friend expired she digs into the hospital's medical records only to discover dozens of cases of patients who have passed away under similar, mysterious circumstances. Her investigation leads to uncovering the nefarious secret of Operating Room 8.

On the lighter side, a German movie called Good Bye Lenin! sees a Socialist woman wake up from a long coma. East and West Germany have reunited and the world she knew is gone. After doctors tell her



Uma Thurman's character in Kill Bill wakes up from a coma to unleash hell on her enemies.

son that any shock to her system could be fatal he takes pains to make her comfortable by recreating her beloved East Germany in their house. It's a touching film about a son's love for his mother, but also an energetic satire about the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Quentin Tarantino used

a coma as a way to introduce the Uma Thurman character in his revenge epic Kill Bill. Shot and left for dead at her wedding, The Bride (Thurman) wakes up four years later determined to get bloody vengeance on everyone who double-crossed her. This is a good example of a

movie using the "Sleeping Beauty" effect whereby recovery from a comatose state is instantaneous and absolute. In truth, after laying in a coma for years, The Bride would require massive physiotherapy to even begin to bring back the muscle tone required to wage holy hell on her

enemies.

Not everyone is happy about the portrayal of comatose patients in movies. One doctor, Eelco Wijdicks of the Mayo Clinic, is pushing for more realism. A recent study published in Neurology magazine showed 39 per cent of viewers would allow portrayals of coma victims on film to influence their decision making should a relative ever become comatose. "This misrepresentation in both U.S. and foreign moves is problematic," he said.

For a more realistic look at comas check out the drama Reversal of Fortune or, better yet, have a look at Liz Garbus' documentary Coma which explores the mysteries of the injured brain and its ability to heal by following four coma survivors over the course of a year.

Richard Crouse's Movie Show can be seen every Sunday at 6:30 p.m. on the E! Channel; [mrchaos33@hotmail.com](mailto:mrchaos33@hotmail.com).

**NICOLAS CAGE**

**KNOWING**

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Rainbow Cinemas

This week's new releases are highlighted in pink.

Screen Times

THIS PAGE COVERS MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., MARCH 13 TO THURS., MARCH 19. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

OTTAWA

BYTOWNE CINEMA

325 Rideau St., 613-789-3456

**Che: Part One** (14A) Fri 9:30 Sat 2:15-7:05 Sun 6:30 Mon 4:30 Tue-Thu 6:50  
**Che: Part Two** (PG) Fri 6:45 Sat 4:20 Sun 1:15-8:35 Mon 6:35 Tue 8:55 Wed 4-8:55 Thu 8:55  
**Heavenly Creatures** (14A) Mon 9:20 Tue 4:40  
**The Reader** (14A) Thu 4:15  
**Revolutionary Road** (14A) Fri 4:15 Sat 9:10 Sun 4

CANADIAN FILM INSTITUTE

2 Daly Ave., Suite 120, 613-232-6727

**Adoration** (STC) Sat 9  
**Canada's Top Ten Shorts** (STC) Sun 7  
**Heaven on Earth** (14A) Sun 9  
**My Father's Studio** (STC) Sat 7

CANADIAN MUSEUM OF NATURE

240 McLeod St., 613-566-4700

**Nature Scopers: Amazing! The Transformation of Caterpillars** (STC) Sat-Sun 9:30-10:30 Sat-Sun 10-11  
**Planet Earth: Ice Worlds** (STC) Fri 3 Sat-Sun 11:30-1:30-3:30 Thu 6 Fri 4 Sat-Sun 12:30-2:30 Thu 7

COLISEUM OTTAWA

3090 Carling Ave., 613-566-9475

**Confessions of a Shopaholic** (PG) Fri-Wed 1:20-4:20-7:15-9:50 Thu 4:20-7:15-9:50 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1  
**Coraline 3D** (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:40-6:30-9  
**He's Just Not That Into You** (14A) Fri-Thu 6:20-9:20  
**The International** (14A) Fri-Tue 6:50-9:35 Wed 9:35 Thu 6:50-9:35  
**The Last House on the Left** (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:30-4:40-7:30-10:10  
**Metropolitan Opera: Orfeo ed Euridice — Gluck — Encore Presentation** (STC) Sat 1  
**Miss March** (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:10-2:40-3:30-4:10-6:15-7-8-10-10:20  
**Paul Blart: Mall Cop** (PG) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:45  
**The Pink Panther 2** (PG) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:30

**Race to Witch Mountain** (PG) Fri-Wed 12:10-2:40-3:30-4:10-6:15-7-8-10-10:20  
**Slumdog Millionaire** (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:50-6:40-9:30  
**Taken** (14A) Fri 12:20-2:50-5:10-7:40-10:05 Sat 5:10-7:40-10:05 Sun-Thu 12:20-2:50-5:10-7:40-10:05  
**Watchmen** (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12-12:30-2:40-3:30-4:10-6:15-7-8-10-10:20

EMPIRE 7 CINEMAS

111 Albert St., 3rd Floor  
World Exchange Plaza, 613-233-0209

**He's Just Not That Into You** (14A) Fri 3:40-6:40-9:35 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:40-6:40-9:35 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:35  
**The Last House on the Left** (18A) Fri 3:50-7:10-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:20-3:50-7:10-9:50 Mon-Thu 3:50-7:10-9:50  
**Opus Arte: Un Ballo in Maschera (Opera)** (STC) Sat-Sun 1  
**The Reader** (14A) Fri 3:30-6:30-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:30-6:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 3:30-6:30-9:30  
**Slumdog Millionaire** (14A) Fri 4-6:50-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:40-4-6:50-9:40 Mon-Thu 4-6:50-9:40  
**Stone of Destiny** (PG) Fri-Tue 4:20-7:20-9:45 Wed 4:20-9:45 Thu 4:20-7:20-9:45  
**The Tale of Despereaux** (G) Mon-Thu

3:40  
**Watchmen** (18A) No Passes Fri 4:30-8:30 No Passes Sat-Sun 1-4:30-8:30 Mon-Thu 4:30-8:30  
**The Wrestler** (14A) Fri 4:10-7-9:55 Sat-Sun 12:45-4:10-7-9:55 Mon-Thu 4:10-7-9:55

MAYFAIR THEATRE

1074 Bank St., 613-730-3403,

**The Big Lebowski** (14A) Fri 9:30  
**Bolt** (PG) Wed 1  
**Chandni Chowk to China** (PG) Fri 6:30 Sat-Mon 9

**The Commitments** (STC) Tue 9  
**Fiddler on the Roof** (STC) Sun 3:30  
**Friday the 13th: The Final Chapter** (STC) Fri 12  
**Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade** (STC) Sat 4:30  
**Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom** (STC) Sat 2  
**Last Chance Harvey** (PG) Sat-Mon 7  
**Lawrence of Arabia** (STC) Sun 11:30  
**Once** (14A) Tue 7  
**Raiders of the Lost Ark** (STC) Sat 11:30  
**The Tale of Despereaux** (G) Sun-Tue 1  
**Taxi Driver** (STC) Wed 9

OTTAWA FAMILY CINEMA

710 Broadview Ave., 613-722-8218

**The Pink Panther 2** (PG) Sat 2  
**Titanic** (PG) Fri 7

RAINBOW CINEMAS

St. Laurent Centre,  
1200 St. Laurent Blvd.,  
613-688-0850

**Bedtime Stories** (G) Fri-Thu 10:30-12:30-2:35-7:20  
**Bolt** (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:20  
**Bride Wars** (PG) Fri-Thu 7:10-9:20  
**The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG) Fri-Thu 10:10-5:20-8:30  
**Defiance** (14A) Fri-Thu 10:20-6:30-9:10  
**Hotel for Dogs** (G) Fri-Thu 10:05-12:10-2:30-4:55  
**Inkheart** (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4  
**Marley & Me** (PG) Fri-Thu 12:20-5:05-7:25  
**Revolutionary Road** (14A) Fri-Thu 4:45-9:30  
**Twilight** (PG) Fri-Thu 10-2:40-9:40

RIDEAU CENTRE CINEMAS

50 Rideau St., 613-234-3712

**Miss March** (14A) SDDS Digital Fri 4:15-7:15-9:40 SDDS Digital Sat-Thu 12:45-4:15-7:15-9:40  
**Race to Witch Mountain** (PG) No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 4:45-7-9:25 No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Thu 12:15-2:30-4:45-7-9:25  
**Watchmen** (18A) No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 5:45-9:15 No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Thu 2:15-5:45-9:15

SOUTH KEYS

2214 Bank St., 613-736-1115

**Confessions of a Shopaholic** (PG) Fri-Thu 10:30-1-3:45-7:05-9:40  
**Coraline** (PG) Fri-Thu 10:45-1:15-4:15  
**Fired Up** (PG) Fri-Thu 6:45-9:15  
**Gran Torino** (14A) Fri 10:10-1:30-4:10-7:10-10 Sat 4:10-7:10-10 Sun-Thu 10:10-1:30-4:10-7:10-10  
**The Last House on the Left** (18A) No Passes Fri 11:30-2:10-4:40-7:20-9:50 No Passes Sat 11:30-2-4:40-7:20-9:50 No Passes Sun-Thu 11:30-2:10-4:40-7:20-9:50  
**Metropolitan Opera: Orfeo ed Euridice — Gluck — Encore Presentation** (STC) Sat 1  
**Miss March** (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 10:05-12:30-2:50-5:10-7:25-10:05  
**Paul Blart: Mall Cop** (PG) Fri-Thu 10:10-

12:25-2:45-5:15-7:30-9:45  
**The Pink Panther 2** (PG) Fri-Thu 10:35-1:20-4:05  
**Race to Witch Mountain** (PG) Fri-Thu 10:10-30-12:55-1:25-3:50-4:20-7:35-9:30-10  
**Slumdog Millionaire** (14A) Fri-Thu 10:15-1:10-4:25-7:15-9:55  
**Taken** (14A) Fri-Thu 6:50-9:20  
**Watchmen** (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 10:40-12-2:30-4:30-6:20-8:15-9:55

GATINEAU

CANADIAN MUSEUM OF CIVILIZATION

100 rue Laurier, 819-776-7010

**Les Alpes** (STC) Sun 7 Wed 7  
**The Alps** (STC) Fri 10 Sat 9 Mon 3 Wed 9 Thu 6  
**Bestioles** (STC) Fri-Sat 4 Wed 4  
**Bugs!** (STC) Fri-Sat 5 Sun 1 Tue 3 Wed 12 Thu 10  
**Cirque du Soleil: Journey of Man** (STC) Fri 11 Sat 10 Sun 3 Mon 12 Tue 2 Thu 11  
**Cirque du Soleil: Passages** (STC) Fri 1 Sun 10 Mon 8 Thu 1  
**Coral Reef Adventure** (STC) Sat 2 Sun 12 Mon 6 Tue 12 Wed 5  
**Coraux du Pacifique** (STC) Tue 7  
**Deep Sea** (STC) Fri 12 Sat 11 Tue 5 Wed 11 Thu 2  
**Deep Sea 3D** (STC) Mon 10  
**Grand Canyon Adventure: River at Risk** (STC) Fri 10 Sat 6 Sun 5 Tue 9 Wed-Thu 8  
**Momies: Secret des Pharaons** (STC) Sat 1 Sun 4 Mon 1 Wed 1  
**Mummies: Secrets of the Pharaohs** (STC) Fri 2 Sat 12 Sun-Mon 2 Tue 11 Wed 2 Thu 12  
**Mystere du Nil** (STC) Sun 8 Tue 1  
**Mystery of the Nile** (STC) Fri-Sat 8 Mon 5 Tue 6 Wed 10 Thu 3  
**Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure** (STC) Fri 7 Sat 10 Sun 6 Mon 9 Tue 10 Wed 3 Thu 7  
**Shackleton: Une Aventure dans l'Antarctique** (STC) Fri 9 Sat 7 Tue 4  
**Sous les bombes** (STC) Thu 4  
**Sous les Mers du Monde** (STC) Sun 11 Mon 7  
**Space Station** (STC) Fri-Sat 3 Mon 11 Tue 8 Wed 6 Thu 5  
**Station spatiale** (STC) Mon 4

CINÉMA DES GALERIES D'AYLMER

400 boul. Wilfrid-Lavigne,  
819-248-2526

**Dédé, à travers les brumes** (STC) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:30 Mon 6:40 Tue 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:30 Wed-Thu 6:40-9:30  
**Fired Up** (PG) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:20-6:50-9:20 Mon 6:50 Tue 12:50-3:20-6:50-9:20 Wed-Thu 6:50-9:20  
**Watchmen** (18A) Fri-Sun 1:10-4:30-7:50 Mon 7:50 Tue 1:10-4:30-7:50 Wed-Thu 7:50

CINÉ-STARZ

1100 boul. Maloney Ouest,  
819-568-8000

**Babine** (STC) Fri-Thu 5:25  
**Coeur d'encre** (G) Fri-Thu 12-3:55-5:45  
**Le conte de Despereaux** (G) Fri-Thu 12  
**La guerre des mariées** (G) Fri-Thu 3:10-4:40  
**Histoires enchantées** (G) Fri-Thu 1:35-3:15-7  
**Laisse tomber, il te mérite pas!** (G) Fri-Thu 7:45  
**Marley et moi** (G) Fri-Thu 5  
**Monde Infernal: La révolte des Lycans** (13+) Fri-Thu 9:45  
**La panthère rose 2** (G) Fri-Thu 12-1:35-

6:10-8:45  
**Twilight** (G) Fri-Thu 3:20-7:20  
**Twilight: la fascination** (G) Fri-Thu 1:50-7:35-9:40  
**Vendredi 13** (13+) Fri-Thu 9:25  
**Volt** (G) Fri-Thu 12-1:40

GATINEAU 9

120 boul. de l'Hôpital, 819-568-6070

**Le Bonheur de Pierre** (G) Fri 7:20 Sat-Sun 12:45-7:20 Mon 7:20 Tue 12:45-7:20 Wed-Thu 7:20  
**La course vers la montagne ensorcelée** (G) Fri 7:30-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:15-2:30-4:45-7:30-9:50 Mon 7:30-9:50 Tue 12:15-2:30-4:45-7:30-9:50 Wed-Thu 7:30-9:50  
**Dédé, à travers les brumes** (13+) Fri 6:40-9:40 Sat-Sun 12-3:25-6:40-9:40 Mon 6:40-9:40 Tue 12-3:25-6:40-9:40 Wed-Thu 6:40-9:40  
**Les gardiens** (STC) No Passes Fri 6-8:15-9:15 No Passes Sat-Sun 11:30-1-2:45-4:30-6-8:15-9:15 No Passes Mon 6-8:15-9:15 No Passes Tue 11:30-1-2:45-4:30-6-8:15-9:15 No Passes Wed-Thu 6-8:15-9:15  
**L'enlèvement** (13+) Fri 6:20-8:45 Sat-Sun 1:30-3:40-6:20-8:45 Mon 6:20-8:45 Tue 1:30-3:40-6:20-8:45 Wed-Thu 6:20-8:45  
**Paul Blart: Flic du mail** (STC) Fri 9:45 Sat-Sun 3:30-9:45 Mon 9:45 Tue 3:30-9:45 Wed-Thu 9:45  
**Le pouilleux millionnaire** (STC) Fri 6:30-9:25 Sat-Sun 1:20-3:50-6:30-9:25 Mon 6:30-9:25 Tue 1:20-3:50-6:30-9:25 Wed-Thu 6:30-9:25

STARCITÉ HULL

115 boul. du Plateau, 819-770-1090,

**Le Bonheur de Pierre** (G) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:35-6:50-9:20  
**Coraline 3D v.f.** (G) Fri-Thu 1-3:15-6:35  
**La course vers la montagne ensorcelée** (G) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:05-7:05-9:25  
**The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (G) Fri-Thu 4-7:30  
**Dédé, à travers les brumes** (13+) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30  
**Les gardiens** (13+) Fri-Thu 1:30-5-8:30  
**Je me souviens** (G) Fri-Thu 12:35-2:45-4:55-7:05-9:10  
**Jonas Brothers: The 3D Concert Experience in Disney Digital 3D** (G) Fri-Thu 9:20  
**L'Empreinte de l'ange** (G) Fri-Thu 1:25-4-7-9:45  
**The Last House on the Left** (16+) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:05-7:10-9:50  
**Mia et le Migou** (G) Fri-Thu 1-3:10  
**Miss March** (13+) Fri-Thu 1:35-4:10-7:15-9:40  
**Palace pour chiens** (G) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:20  
**La panthère rose 2** (G) Fri-Thu 1:20  
**Polytechnique** (13+) Fri-Thu 7:20-9:05  
**Race to Witch Mountain** (G) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:40-6:55-9:15  
**Slumdog Millionaire** (STC) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:25-6:50-9:35  
**Taken** (13+) Fri-Thu 7-9:10  
**Watchmen** (13+) Fri-Thu 12:20-1:45-3:45-5:30-7:30-9

BARRHAVEN

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131 Riocan Dr., 613-825-2463

**Confessions of a Shopaholic** (PG) Fri 7:20-10 Sat-Thu 1:10-4:20-7:20-10  
**Coraline** (PG) Sat-Thu 12:20-3:40  
**He's Just Not That Into You** (14A) Fri-Thu 6:50-10:20  
**The Pink Panther 2** (PG) Sat-Wed 12:40-4:10 Thu 4:10 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1  
**Race to Witch Mountain** (PG) Fri 7:10-10:10 Sat-Wed 1-4-7:10-10:10 Thu 4-7-10-

10:10 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1  
**Slumdog Millionaire** (14A) Fri 6:40-9:50 Sat-Thu 12:30-3:50-6:40-9:50  
**Taken** (14A) Fri-Thu 6:30-9:30  
**Watchmen** (18A) No Passes Fri 6-7-9:40-10:30 No Passes Sat-Thu 12-1:30-3:30-6-7-9:40-10:30

GLOUCESTER

SILVERCITY

2385 City Park Dr., 613-688-8800

**Confessions of a Shopaholic** (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:10-7:20-9:55  
**Coraline 3D** (PG) Fri-Thu 1:50-4:25-7:05-9:35  
**Fired Up** (PG) Fri-Tue 6:20-8:50 Wed 9:30 Thu 6:20-8:50  
**He's Just Not That Into You** (14A) Fri 11:55-3:05-6:40-10:10 Sat 3:05-6:40-10:10 Sun-Wed 11:55-3:05-6:40-10:10 Thu 11:55-3:05-10:10  
**The International** (14A) Fri-Thu 10:20  
**Jonas Brothers: The 3D Concert Experience in Disney Digital 3D** (G) Fri-Thu 11:40  
**The Last House on the Left** (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:10-3:50-6:35-9:10  
**Metropolitan Opera: Orfeo ed Euridice — Gluck — Encore Presentation** (STC) Sat 1  
**Miss March** (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:10-2:35-5-7:25-9:40  
**One Week** (STC) Fri-Tue 12:40-3:35-6:50-9:25 Wed 3:35-6:50-9:25 Thu 12:40-3:35-6:50-9:25 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1  
**Paul Blart: Mall Cop** (PG) Fri-Thu 11:45-2:15-4:45-7:40  
**The Pink Panther 2** (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:15  
**Race to Witch Mountain** (PG) Fri-Tue 11:30-12:25-2:05-3-4:35-5-25-7:10-7:50-9:45-10:15 Star & Strollers Wed 1  
**Slumdog Millionaire** (14A) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:25-6:25-9:15  
**Taken** (14A) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:05-6:45-9:05  
**Watchmen** (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:35-1-2-4-30-6-8-8:30-10  
**Watchmen: The IMAX Experience** (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12-3:30-7-10:30

ORLEANS

ORLEANS TOWN CENTRE 6 CINEMAS

250 Centrum Blvd., 613-834-0666

**Confessions of a Shopaholic** (PG) Fri 7:10-9:45 Sat-Thu 1-3:50-7:10-9:45  
**Gran Torino** (14A) Fri 6:30-9:10 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:30-9:10-9:30 Mon 6:30-9:10 Tue 6:20-9:10 Wed-Thu 6:30-9:10  
**Paul Blart: Mall Cop** (PG) Fri 6:50-9 Sat-Tue 1:20-4:20-6:50-9 Wed-Thu 4:20-6:50-9  
**Race to Witch Mountain** (PG) No Passes Fri 7-9:25 No Passes Sat-Thu 1:10-4:10-7-9:25  
**Slumdog Millionaire** (14A) Fri 6:40-9:20 Sat-Thu 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:20  
**The Tale of Despereaux** (G) Mon-Thu 12:50-3:30  
**Volt** (PG) Wed-Thu 1:20  
**Watchmen** (18A) No Passes Fri 6:15-9:35 No Passes Sat-Sun 3-6:15-9:35 No Passes Mon 4-8 No Passes Tue 3-6:15-9:35 No Passes Wed-Thu 4-8

KANATA

KANATA 24

801 Earl Gray Dr., 613-599-1200

**Changeling** (14A) SDDS Digital, Open Captioned Tue-Wed 12:25-3:35  
**Confessions of a Shopaholic** (PG)

SDDS Digital Fri 2:05-4:35-7:05-9:35 SDDS Digital Sat-Sun 11:30-2:05-4:35-7:05-9:35 SDDS Digital Mon-Thu 2:05-4:35-7:05-9:35  
**Coraline** (PG) SDDS Digital Fri 1:55-4:35 SDDS Digital Sat-Sun 11:15-1:55-4:35 SDDS Digital Mon-Thu 1:55-4:35  
**The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG) SDDS Digital Fri 2:35-6:05-9:35 SDDS Digital Sat-Sun 11:05-2:35-6:05-9:35 SDDS Digital Mon-Thu 2:35-6:05-9:35  
**Defiance** (14A) SDDS Digital Fri-Sun 7:20-10:20 SDDS Digital Mon-Thu 8:05  
**Fired Up** (PG) SDDS Digital Fri 2:10-4:25-7:10-9:40 SDDS Digital Sat-Sun 11:50-2:10-4:25-7:10-9:40 SDDS Digital Mon-Wed 2:10-4:25-7:10-9:40 SDDS Digital Thu 2:10-4:25  
**Gran Torino** (14A) SDDS Digital Fri 2:05-4:45-7:25-10:15 SDDS Digital Sat-Sun 11:20-2:05-4:45-7:25-10:15 SDDS Digital Mon-Thu 2:05-4:45-7:25-10:15  
**He's Just Not That Into You** (14A) SDDS Digital Fri-Thu 1:15-4:10-7:10-10:05  
**Hotel for Dogs** (G) SDDS Digital Fri 2:20-4:55 SDDS Digital Sat-Sun 11:35-2:20-4:55 SDDS Digital Mon-Thu 12:20-2:50-5:25  
**The International** (14A) SDDS Digital Fri-Wed 1-4-7-9:50 SDDS Digital Mon-Thu 1-4  
**The Last House on the Left** (18A) SDDS Digital, Special Engagement Fri 2-4:40-7:30-10:20 SDDS Digital, Special Engagement Sat-Sun 11:10-2-4:40-7:30-10:20 SDDS Digital, Special Engagement Mon-Thu 2-4:40-7:30-10:20  
**Milk** (14A) SDDS Digital Fri-Mon 1:05-4:05-7:05-10 SDDS Digital Tue-Wed 7:05-10 SDDS Digital Thu 1:05-4:05-7:05-10  
**Miss March** (14A) SDDS Digital, Special Engagement Fri 2:15-5-7:30-10 SDDS Digital, Special Engagement Sat-Sun 11:40-2:15-5-7:30-10 SDDS Digital, Special Engagement Mon-Thu 2:15-5-7:30-10  
**One Week** (STC) Dolby Stereo, Special Engagement Fri 2:35-5:05-6:40-7:40-9:10-10:10 Dolby Stereo, Special Engagement Sat-Sun 11:55-2:35-5:05-6:40-7:40-9:10-10:10 Dolby Stereo, Special Engagement Mon-Wed 2:35-5:05-6:40-7:40-9:10-10:10 Dolby Stereo, Special Engagement Thu 2:35-5:05-6:40-9:10  
**Paul Blart: Mall Cop** (PG) SDDS Digital Fri 3:50-7:35-9:50 SDDS Digital Sat-Thu 12:35-3:50-7:35-9:50  
**The Pink Panther 2** (PG) SDDS Digital Fri 1:40-4:05-6:45-9:15 SDDS Digital Sat-Sun 11:25-1:40-4:05-6:45-9:15 SDDS Digital Mon-Thu 1:40-4:05-6:45-9:15  
**Race to Witch Mountain** (PG) SDDS Digital, Special Engagement Fri 1:45-2:45-4:30-5:15-7:15-8-9:55-10:25 SDDS Digital, Special Engagement Sat 11:15-12:15-1:45-2:45-4:30-5:15-7:15-8-9:55-10:25 SDDS Digital, Special Engagement Sun 11:15-12:15-1:45-2:45-4:30-5:15-7:15-8-9:55 SDDS Digital, Special Engagement Mon-Thu 12:15-1:45-2:45-4:30-5:15-7:15-8-9:55  
**The Reader** (14A) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 1:50-4:40-7:25-10:10  
**Slumdog Millionaire** (14A) SDDS Digital Fri 1:45-4:30-7:15-10:15 SDDS Digital Sat-Sun 11:05-1:45-4:30-7:15-10:15 SDDS Digital Mon-Thu 1:45-4:30-7:15-10:15  
**Taken** (14A) SDDS Digital Fri 2:45-5:10-7:45-10:05 SDDS Digital Sat-Thu 12:15-2:45-5:10-7:45-10:05  
**The Tale of Despereaux** (G) SDDS Digital Fri 1:25-4 SDDS Digital Sat-Sun 11:1-25-4 SDDS Digital Mon-Thu 1:25-4  
**Watchmen** (18A) SDDS Digital, Special Engagement Fri 1:15-2-2:30-3:15-4:45-5:30-6:15-7-8:30-9-9:45-10:30 SDDS Digital, Special Engagement Sat 11-11:45-12:30-1:15-2:30-3:15-4:15-4:45-6:15-7:45-8:30-9:45-10:30 SDDS Digital, Special Engagement Sun 11:11-45-12:30-1:15-2:30-3:15-4:15-4:45-6:15-7:45-8:30-9:45 SDDS Digital Mon-Thu 12:30-1:15-2:30-3:15-4:15-4:45-6:15-7:45-8:30-9:45  
**The Wrestler** (14



## Music

# Hey Rosetta! primed for Indie

An Independent Music Award would top an already stellar year for East Coast sextet

IAN NATHANSON  
for Metro Canada



Should East Coast rockers Hey Rosetta! be victorious at this year's Canadian Independent Music Awards, it would mark a rather lucky streak for the rising Newfoundland-Labrador sextet.

Two weekends ago in Corner Brook, N.L., Hey Rosetta! picked up three East Coast Music Awards for Group Recording, Recording of the Year and Alternative Recording for its 2008 disc *Into Your Lungs* (and around in your heart and on through your blood).

On Saturday night at Toronto's Fairmount Royal York Hotel, the group will find out what fate bestows upon them for the affectionately dubbed Indies.

"Sometimes you go to some of these industry-oriented festivals in which the



The Arkells, left, and Hey Rosetta! are both up for honours at the Independent Music Awards this Saturday.

shows are closed to the public and there's very little feedback from the crowd," frontman Tim Baker, whose band is up for favourite album and favourite artist/website, tells Metro.

"But CMW's cool. At least the shows we've done for it have always been exciting. The vibe there is so electric."

The Trews lead all Indies contenders with four Indies nominations. Other multiple nominees include City and Colour (Alexisonfire guitarist Dallas Green's side project), Crystal Castles, Kathleen Edwards and The Weeknd. Taylor Swift, America's rising country sensation, tops all international acts with three nods.

Certainly, the Indies lay claim to acknowledging, promoting and honouring achievements of Canadian and international artists in the independent music sector. Yet both Jean-Phi Goncalves, one-half of Montreal's trip-rock duo Beast, sides with Baker in that it's less about the awards being handed out and more about

getting a buzz from the audience reacting to good indie music.

"The people you have in front of you give you this incredible energy, and at the same time you give back this same energy to the crowd," Goncalves says. "I remember our first music industry festival show a couple of years ago. (Singer

Betty Bonifassi and I) were so stressed because we were playing to people who didn't really know our music. But somehow we lit a fire and wound up doing well."

Beast will be performing alongside the likes of other nominated contenders such as Arkells, Crystal Castles, The Midway State, USS and Indies Hall of Fame Inductees Anvil.

"It's certainly great that industry people will come out to see you play and perhaps might be able to help move your career along," says Dan Griffin, keyboardist-singer-guitarist with the Hamilton-based Arkells. "What they will see at the Indies is a lot of variety — electronica, alt-rock, you name it ... and us sort of representing the classic rock genre. "And we look forward to any and all shows — it's essentially what keeps us going."

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**Top albums according to Billboard**

1. No Line on the Horizon, U2; 2. Fearless, Taylor Swift; 3. Middle Cyclone, Neko Case;  
4. The Fame, Lady Gaga; 5. Dark Horse, Nickelback. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

**Music**

# Biggest bands getting bigger as they Twitter

**SoundCheck**

**Alan Cross**



metronews.ca/soundcheck

Back on Feb. 26, Coldplay fans all over the world followed what was happening at the Brit Awards in real time thanks to the Twitter. Every few minutes, someone from the band squirted out a new sub-140 character message to Coldplay fans, who received them on their computers and smart phones. The effect was like an abbreviated play-by-play of the event. Or even private diary thoughts being shared with a select group of people.

After lingering in the shadow of Facebook and MySpace, Twitter has emerged as the communication phenomenon of 2009. It combines the brevity of text messaging with the hyperlinking that makes blogs so useful. It's also a fast and free way for anyone who needs to reach an audience in a fairly intimate way.

I'm getting tweets from Coldplay, Muse, Weezer, Bjork, Oasis and Pearl Jam. I keep up to date with gossipy U2 fans, record labels with news to spread and music geeks who link to unusual websites. I'm getting my news faster than ever before — which I think is a good thing. I think.

As a broadcaster with two national radio shows and a music website with

international reach, Twitter allows me to keep people up to date on what I'm doing, what I can offer them and how they can participate in stuff that I've got coming up. As I write this, 1,215 people have subscribed to the posts of alan-cross. Cool!

For example, before I interviewed Iggy Pop and Dave Gahan of Depeche Mode last week, I tweeted my followers (That's what you call people who subscribe to your Twitter posts. How ... messianic.) that if they had any questions for these two guys that they should message me back and I would ask them on their behalf.

The response was staggering. The questions I got from the audience were more heartfelt and honest than anything I could have come up with — and it showed in the answers I got from Iggy and Dave. I'm now amassing questions for my Green Day interview next month.

Might Twitter be here to stay? Or is it another techno-fad doomed to burn out? And this concerns me: On March 3, Twitter went down when the women on The View showed their audience how to use it.

Whoopi on Twitter? That's as bad as finding my mom on Facebook.

The Ongoing History of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read the daily Music Geek blog at [ongoinghistory.com](http://ongoinghistory.com)

**Metro recommends**

• **U2, NO LINE ON THE HORIZON:** Bono and company lace up their boot and add some atmospheric depth to their usual arena-sized rock anthems.

• **TMDP, (SELF-TITLED):** Toronto DJ duo delivers free-flowing electronic dance music that's big on melodies and bubbly '80s techno.

• **HOLLER, WILD ROSE! OUR LITTLE HYMNAL:** Holler, Wild Rose!, Our Little Hymnal: Brooding indie rock with dreamy layers that echoes Jeff Buckley and Pink Floyd.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# Handsome Furs after Parade

**BRYAN BORYKOWSKI**  
for Metro Canada



**Being in one of the most sought after Canadian indie bands would be time consuming for even the most organized rocker, but what happens when your side project is just as popular as your day job? That's the challenge Dan Boeckner faces, as a singer in both Wolf Parade and the Handsome Furs.**

These days the Montreal-based artist is all about the

Furs — the band's new record, Face Control, is out this week — but Wolf Parade isn't far from his mind. "I'm always thinking about stuff for Wolf Parade," says Boeckner. "I have a few things saved up for that band, but basically we finished our last tour and we'll get back together in the fall and write new material together again."

Managing both acts, which he says "is all just projects," isn't easy, but he seems to have figured it out. He explains that Wolf

Parade — which also includes Spencer Krug, another multi-band musician — has evolved to the point where they don't have to sit for months and hammer out material.

"We're at a weird place where Spencer and I don't write songs at home and bring them to the band," says Boeckner. "We have really vague ideas and work through them together in our rehearsal space."

Because Wolf Parade isn't as time consuming as it once was, Boeckner is free

"to go into the studio for a couple hours and try to bang something out" for Handsome Furs. However, the duo's sophomore disc (his wife, Alexei Perry plays keys), isn't a hastily created album — if anything, it's one of the best of '09 so far.

This record picks up where their debut, Plauge Park, left off but with dance-friendly drum machine beats and a more focused pop approach, Face Control ends up being a vast improvement over their first effort.

## 2009 SPRING SERIES

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March 18 + 19

**Johnny Reid**



Friday  
March 20

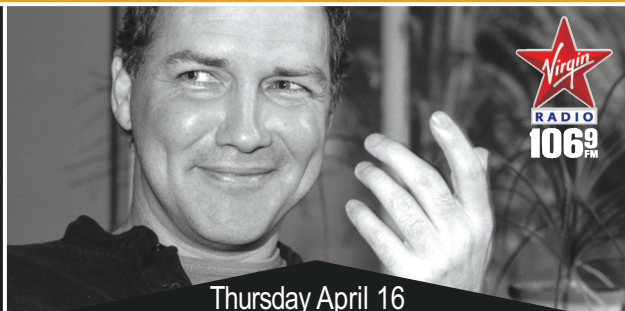
**Jon Lovitz**



Wednesday  
May 6

**Cowboy Junkies**  
On Sale March 13th

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Thursday April 16

**Norm MacDonald**

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Thursday  
April 30

**Alex Cuba**

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Saturday  
March 21

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May 4 Bill Anderson  
May 9 Rik Emmet Plays Clapton - On Sale Monday!  
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- 2 Crack A Bottle Eminem
- 3 Poker Face Lady Gaga
- 4 Dead And Gone T.I.
- 5 Kiss Me Thru Phone Soulja Boy
- 6 Single Ladies Beyoncé
- 7 Heartless Kanye West
- 8 Right Now Akon
- 9 Live Your Life T.I.
- 10 Love Story Taylor Swift

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**ROGERS**



## Television

## French connection

Language barrier no obstacle for Quebec rock act Malajube



Malajube's sophomore album, *Labyrinthes*, delivers another dose of high energy tunes. The Montreal band plays the El Mocambo Thursday as part of Canadian Music Week.

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI  
for Metro Canada

**Being a Canadian band is tough — long road trips, cold winters and immense competition can derail the most focused act, but throw in non-English vocals and the odds of making it are nearly impossible.**

But, francophone five-piece Malajube have defied the odds — their all-French debut *Trompe L'oeil* was nominated for three Junos in 2007, a Polaris Prize and they've toured extensively throughout the U.S., something most Québécois acts only dream of.

"We had no hopes," says drummer Francis Mineau, on the phone from Montreal. "We thought we'd maybe sell at least the first run of copies and tour in Quebec a bit. The success was overwhelming."

Now that the entire country is into the frenetic rock band, the group have to deal with the pressure that comes with following up a successful record.

Luckily, their new effort, *Labyrinthes*, delivers another dose of high energy tunes, albeit with a few instrumental jams thrown in the mix.

Besides the amped-up tunes, the band continue to sing in their native tongue. That has some people asking the band if, maybe, their next record will tackle the English language. No way, says Mineau.

"We're proud to sing in French," says Mineau. "Plus, it's the different language that sets us apart. It's strange, because some people think if we sang in English we'd be more popular, but the French thing has served us well."

You might think that being one of the only Francophone rock bands traversing English North America would put some added pressure on the group to represent their province. But while they're definitely enjoying the attention, they can't be responsible for helping every French act looking for an-

## Canadian Music Week

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glo-  
phone attention.

"I don't feel the weight of other French bands on our shoulders," he says. "If they don't make it to the other side it's not my fault."

When it comes down to it, making it outside the francophone community has to do with one thing — good music. But it helps to be part of the much talked about Montreal music scene, which launched Arcade Fire and Wolf Parade.

"Maybe we're the band that relates the most to those groups," he explains. "I doubt if another band that sings in French in Montreal has so many anglophones at their shows."

## Canadian film tribute with a surreal touch

CHRIS ALEXANDER  
for Metro Canada



**FILM** In a conventional sense, few things are more Canadian than the culturally pure output of the National Film Board but in a

conventional sense, the weird and wonderful work of Winnipeg-based surrealist Guy Maddin (director of *The Saddest Music in the World* among many, many others) is as well.

And while the thought of marrying these two very different cinematic sensibilities seems pretty abstract, in honour of their 70th anniversary, the powers that be at the NFB have done just that.

The eccentric Maddin is currently helming the short film *Night Mayor*, a picture that both celebrates the spirit and legacy of the iconic production house while still remaining true to his own unique, nostalgia steeped aesthetic.

"The film is about a guy named Nihad from Bosnia in 1939 who, living in Canada, has invented a primitive form of television," explains Maddin of his experimental tribute.

"Drawing on the power of the aura borealis, his machine broadcast images

**"(The NFB is) doing the work that our mainstream films have not been doing ... and I think that's pretty cool."**

Guy Maddin

of Canadians to Canadians. There's no script and I don't know how this will turn out, I'm just trying to hypnotize myself into thinking the people in the film are real subjects and that I've just hired myself to make this documentary."

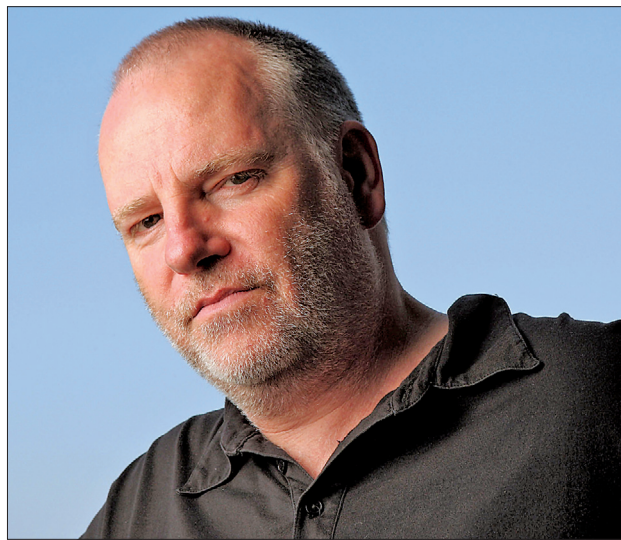
Using the same vintage 16mm equipment and black and white stock utilized by NFB filmmakers in the '30s and '40s, Maddin is hoping his movie will stylistically echo the feel of a real classic Film Board production.

But the question remains: After all these years does the avant garde Maddin really think that the largely ignored NFB still has any real relevance to Canadians?

"It's doing the work that our mainstream films have not been doing," says Maddin, who cites Paul Tomkowicz: *Street Railway Switchman* as his favourite NFB picture. "And that's mythologizing us as a country. They're doing the job of pop culture and I think that's pretty cool."

## Home screenings

• For more information and to watch one of the over 700 classic NFB films online for free, log on to [nfb.com](http://nfb.com).



Writer/director Guy Maddin — whose surreal and wonderful work exemplifies Canadian filmmaking — is behind *Night Mayor*, a tribute to the Canadian National Film Board.



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OTTAWA'S NEWS LEADER





**Stone Cold joins up with Stallone**

Wrestler Steve Austin, has become the latest macho man to join the cast of Sylvester Stallone's extraordinarily exciting action movie, *The Expendables*. He joins a cast that includes Stallone, Arnold Schwarzenegger, and Mickey Rourke. [EMPIREONLINE.COM](http://EMPIREONLINE.COM)

## Television

## U2 considers album reworks

**MUSIC** Irish band U2 provided a prelude to its upcoming world tour with a brief private show Wednesday for just 950 fans who got a chance to make news by asking the band some tough questions.

Among the revelations from the banter with the crowd: U2 is considering reworking and re-releasing some early work including its debut album, 1980's *Boy*, which included U2's first big hit, *I Will Follow*.

"I would love to sing that album again and finish that," said lead singer Bono. He said the band was rushed from the studio producing *Boy* because they "couldn't afford another hour."

"The early records, there's some beautiful songs that feel a little bit unfinished to us," he said.

Pressed on what he'd like to change, the Irish rocker singled out his "phony English accent" on *Boy*.

The back-and-forth with the crowd in Boston's neighboring city of Somerville followed an energetic set of five songs from U2's new album, *No Line on the Horizon*,

**"The early records, there's some beautiful songs that feel a little bit unfinished to us."**

U2 lead singer Bono

which debuted at No. 1 in 30 countries, including the United States and Britain.

An early contender for biggest record of the year, *No Line* is being closely watched by a business seeking to reverse deep declines in album sales. It has been described as the band's most experimental album since 1991.

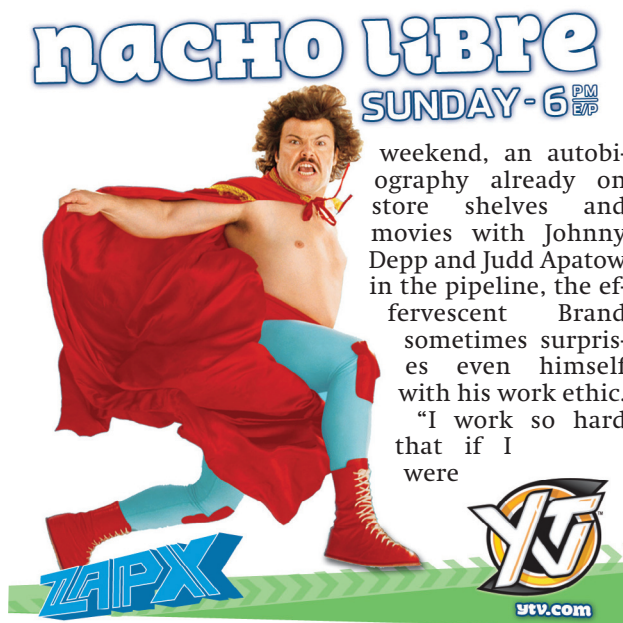
Mainstream critics have generally warmed to it. *Rolling Stone* calls it a "five-star masterpiece," and *Mojo* magazine gave it four stars. But influential music website *Pitchfork* describes it as "rather pitiful."

In the 95-year-old Somerville Theater — a brick venue originally designed for stage shows and vaudeville — U2 tested four of its new releases: *Get On Your Boots*, *Magnificent*, *Breathe* and *I'll Go Crazy If I Don't Crazy Tonight*.

The band ended the show, broadcast live on radio, with 2005 hit single *Vertigo*.

In the past two weeks, U2 has played on the roof of the BBC in London, had a street temporarily named after it for a week in New York, and performed an unprecedented five-night engagement on CBS' *Late Show* with David Letterman.

REUTERS



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## Brand's big payoff

RAFAEL BRUSILOV  
for Metro Canada

**Russell Brand is feeling the love these days.**

The U.K. comedian is finally starting to hit it big with North American audiences after working himself to the bone for years to carry his success overseas.

With a television special coming out this

**"I work so hard that if I were to go mentally ill, I don't think I'd notice."**

Russell Brand

to go mentally ill, I don't think I'd notice," Brand joked.

An admitted former drug addict before finding success as a television host in Britain, Brand scored a scene-stealing breakthrough performance in comedic flick *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* and hosted the 2008 MTV Video Music Awards.

The latter gig in particular provided him with plenty of material for his stand up act, from being asked by producers to avoid obvious questions about Britney Spears' sanity to soaking up hate mail from foul-mouthed viewers unhappy with Brand's mockery of George W. Bush.

Still, he says hosting the show was a blast and kept him on his toes.

"It was fantastic actually — it was a challenge, but very exciting," Brand said.

Brand says audiences in

North America have been responding well and contrary to popular belief, the types of jokes that work here are seldom different from the ones that hit it big in the U.K.

The only real difference, Brand says, is in how raucous the crowd can get.

"There's almost no difference, except here they laugh more," he said.

Brand describes his comedy style as confessional, with a healthy dose of spiritual (and sexual) escapades.

He grew up worshipping comedians who were ahead of their time, such as Richard Pryor and Bill Hicks, and says he's always been conscious of carving his own niche.

"It's hard not to be influenced by such brilliant comedians, but the day you start imitating, it all ends. You've got to constantly improve," Brand said.

## TV times

- Catch Russell Brand in New York City on the Comedy Network Saturday at 10 p.m. ET.

## Prince to paint Leno purple with three-night stand

**TELEVISION** It's not U2, but *The Tonight Show With Jay Leno* will get its own multiple dose of pop royalty this month.

Prince will perform on three consecutive nights on the NBC program as he girds for the release of a pair of new albums. The mini-residency will run March 25 to 27; he also plans to hit the *Tonight* stage May 28 for Leno's next-to-last night as host of the venerable talk show.

No word on whether the notoriously press-shy musician also will sit down for a chat.

The announcement comes the week after U2 did a five-night run on rival late-nighter *Late Show With David Letterman* in support of its new record. Prince's new albums, *Lotus Flower* and *MPLSound*, will be available March 29 exclusively from Target. The \$11.98 package will include an album by rookie artist Bria Velente.

Prince's *Tonight Show* performances apparently are part of a larger rollout



Pop royalty Prince has announced he will perform on three nights on *The Tonight Show With Jay Leno* from March 25 to 27.

for the CD package in Los Angeles. An email Prince sent to fans and media this week read — including the usual wacky spellings, grammar and such: "Purple Electricity. Calling all Purpleheadz: ready 2 get plugged in? From the 24th on, there will b a slew of NPG-relat-

ed events happening around electric LAlaland. we don't want 2 give away all the details yet, but b prepared 2 get yo groove on, numerous ways 4 numerous days. We know \$ is tite but the adventures will b worth ur while! Stay 2ned 2 this outtaspacestation."

REUTERS



With an MTV Music Awards hosting gig and scene-stealing Hollywood cameo under his belt, British comedian Russell Brand is finally making his mark across the pond.

DEAN CHALKNEY



Love Hewitt finds new beau

After dumping her fiancé in December, Jennifer Love Hewitt has reportedly found solace in her Ghost Whisperer co-star Jamie Kennedy. “They hit it off right away,” a source tells Star magazine. METRO WORLD NEWS

Entertainment



Britney spears opens her March 3 concert with her new album's title track, Circus, wearing a ringmaster-inspired costume.

Spears' Canuck costumes

Canadian duo DSquared2 behind pop star's 'wild' outfits

It wasn't just Britney Spears' showmanship that dazzled a sold-out crowd of 16,000-plus fans on the first leg of her Circus tour in New Orleans.

Everyone in the audience was also awestruck by the array of creative costumes unleashed throughout the night.

Designed by Dean and

Dan Caten — the Canadian duo behind the global fashion label DSquared2 — Britney's one-of-a-kind creations ran the gamut from primal to militaristic. The twin brothers, who dressed Britney's idol, Madonna, for her 2001 Drowned World tour, played up the pop princess' "big top" motif, creating stage outfits they call "to-

tally wild."

"It's a metamorphosis from animal to ringmaster to slave, in keeping with the circus theme," Dan explains.

The outfits certainly had the desired effect. Whether it was the costumes or simply her new, positive outlook, after a five-year absence from the stage, the pretty mother of two showed the world that she's back and ready to take control.

HELLO MAGAZINE

During her 90-minute concert, Spears showed off her wild side in an array of outfits, including this form-fitting Swarovski crystal-studded bustier and fishnet tights (pictured, right).



Hellomagazine.ca

See Britney onstage in more DSquared2 outfits in this week's issue of HELLO! Canada, on newsstands now. Visit Hellomagazine.ca.



FRIDAY

OT	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
3/13/09	265	353	2	TVO	Britain From Above	The Agenda With Steve Paikin	Heartbeat	Allan Gregg	Film 101	Agenda-Paikin		
	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Howie Do It (N)	NUMB3RS "12:01 AM"		News		
	209	342	6	CHRO	Instant Star	TMZ (N)	Sarah Connor Chronicles	Whistler (DVS)		Comedy Now		
	196	311	7	CTV	Hollywood	etalk	Ghost Whisperer (N)	Raising the Bar (N)		News (N)		
	208	303	8	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Marketplace	CBC News: the fifth estate (N)		The Hour		
	-	360	9	NBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Howie Do It (N)	Friday Night Lights (N)		Dateline NBC		
	-	362	13	CBS	Dr. Phil (HDTV) (N)		Ghost Whisperer (N)	Flashpoint (HDTV) (N)		NUMB3RS "12:01 AM"		
	216	395	14	OMN2	Raymond	Raymond	News (N)	News (N)		Two/Half Men	King	Cold Case
	214	344	15	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Man Tracker	Survivorman		Out There	Out There	News (N)
	218	345	18	E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	To Be Announced	Friday Night Lights (N)		20/20 (HDTV)		News (N)
3/14/09	-	361	20	ABC	News (N)	Entertainment	Wife Swap (N)	Supernanny (N)		20/20 (HDTV)		News (N)
	-	365	36	FOX	TMZ (N)	Seinfeld	Sarah Connor Chronicles	(9:01) Dollhouse (N)		News (N)		News
	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown: No Bias	Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
	406	417	27	net	MLB Preseason Baseball New York Yankees at Boston Red Sox. (HDTV) (Live)			Sportsnet Connected				Hockey Central
	126	730	28	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Les Grands reportages	Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	400	280	30	TSN	That's Hockey!	Off the Record	Curling Tim Hortons Brier -- Page Playoff 1 vs. 2. (HDTV) (Live)					SportsCentre
	554	544	48	TEL	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	Gremlins *** (1984, Fantasy)	Zach Galligan.		
	557	540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	Wendy Wu: Homecoming Warrior (2006)		3 Ninjas Knuckle Up * (1995, Comedy)		Holes (2003, Adventure)		
	551	542	65	YTV	What a Girl Wants * (2003, Comedy-Drama), Colin Firth			Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Family Biz	Adrenaline Proj	Mystery Hnt.
	615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami "Legal"	CSI: Miami "Hell Night"		CSI: Miami "Speed Kills"		Criminal Minds
3/15/09	628	584	32	SPKE	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		CSI: Crime Scene	DEA "Flip The Stripper"		Real Vice	Real Vice	Disorderly
	616	521	39	SHO	The Outer Limits		Da Vinci's Inquest	Teepees	Kenny-Spenny	Webdreams	Sin Cities	Wife Swap
	520	505	42	DIS	Daily Planet (N)		Heli-Loggers (N)	Man vs. Wild (N)		Deranged (N)		Daily Planet
	581	566	53	MTV	Play'd	City Live After	Made "Kickboxer"	The Real World		Fantasy Fact.	Nitro Circus (N)	Cribs
	522	506	55	HIS	NCIS "The Weak Link"		Shockwave (HDTV)	Urban Legends	Urban Legends	Ice Road Truckers		Sea Hunters
	603	561	95	FN	Chef at Home	Chef at Home	Restaurant Makeover	Kylie Kwong	Gourmets	Diner, Drive-In	Diner, Drive-In	Ramsay Kitchen

SATURDAY

OT	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
3/14/09	265	353	2	TVO	National Geographic	Mask *** (1985, Biography) Eric Stoltz, Cher, Sam Elliott.		The Interviews	The List of Adrian Messenger			
	211	331	3	GTV	Health Care 911	Masterminds	Masterminds	Doc "The Way We Were"		Doc "Men in Tights"		News (N)
	209	342	6	CHRO	The Road to Avonlea	Dancing With the Stars (HDTV)		Comedy Now	Comedy Now		Arts & Minds	
	196	311	7	CTV	W-FIVE-Childhood	Law & Order: SVU		The Mentalist (HDTV)		Law & Order (HDTV)		News (N)
	208	303	8	CBC	NHL Hockey: Regional Coverage -- Flames at Maple Leafs or Devils at Canadiens					NHL Hockey: Avalanche at Oilers		
	-	360	9	NBC	St. Jude's Children's Hospital	The Celebrity Apprentice				Law & Order (HDTV)		News (N)
	-	362	13	CBS	College Basketball	NCIS "Agent Afloat"		The Mentalist (HDTV)		48 Hours Mystery (N)		CSI: NY
	216	395	14	OMN2	Chinese Rest.	Trendy Zone	The Knot ** (2006, Romance) Chen Kun, Vivian Hsu.			Omni News: Mandarin		Chinese Rest.
	214	344	15	CITY	Without a Trace		Murdoch Mysteries	The Uncles ** (2000, Comedy-Drama) Chris Owens.				News (N)
	218	345	18	E!	Chef School	E News	Lies and Crimes (2007, Suspense) Estella Warren.		Show Yours	G-Spot		News (N)
3/15/09	-	361	20	ABC	Entertainment Tonight	Dancing With the Stars (HDTV)				(10:02) Castle (HDTV)		News (N)
	-	365	36	FOX	Bernie Mac	Seinfeld	Cops (N)	Cops	America's Most Wanted		News (N)	MADtv
	500	500	33	CNN	Newsroom		Campbell Brown: No Bias	Larry King Live		D.L. Hughley Breaks the News		Newsroom
	406	417	27	net	PartyPoker.net World Open IV		Baseball World Classic -- Teams TBA. (HDTV) (Live)					Sportsnet Con.
	126	730	28	RDI	Le Journal RDI	Humanima	Découverte (HDTV) (SC)	Le Téléjournal	Les Grands reportages		La Facture	Le Téléjournal
	400	280	30	TSN	World Series of Poker: Europe		Curling Tim Hortons Brier -- Semifinal. (HDTV) From the Pengrowth Saddledome in Calgary. (Live)					
	554	544	48	TEL	Jetsons Meet the Flintstones ** (1987, Daws Butler			Futurama	Robot Chicken	Clone High	Gay Couple	Moral Ore!
	557	540	51	FAM	That's-Raven	Zoe 101	Life Derek	Han. Montana	Beetlejuice *** (1988, Comedy)		(10:32) Space Jam	
	551	542	65	YTV	Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Gremlins *** (1984, Fantasy) Zach Galligan, Phoebe Cates.				Bleach	Mystery Hnt.
	615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami		CSI: Miami "Ambush"	CSI: Miami "All In"		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami
3/16/09	628	584	32	SPKE	Disorderly Conduct: Video		Star Wars V: The Empire Strikes Back *** (1980, Science Fiction) Mark Hamill.				Commando	
	616	521	39	SHO	Mutant X		Her Sister's Keeper (2006, Suspense)	Dahlia Salem.		War of the Worlds (2005, Science Fiction)		
	520	505	42	DIS	Cash Cab (N)	Out in the Cold	Extreme Loggers	Destroyed	Time Warp	Criss Angel	Criss Angel	Guinea Pig (N)
	581	566	53	MTV	MTV Live	After	Made "Kickboxer"	MTV News	Play'd	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs
	522	506	55	HIS	NCIS "Singled Out"		Mob Stories			Gangs of New York *** (2002, Historical Drama) Leonardo DiCaprio.		
	603	561	95	FN	Family	Glutton-Punish.	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares	Ultimate Recipe Showdown		Hell's Kitchen		The F Word

SUNDAY

OT	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
3/15/09	265	353	2	TVO	Titanic's Lost Sister	The Mummy Diaries		Margaret (2009, Biography) Lindsay Duncan.		(10:45) The View	From Here	
	211	331	3	GTV	Ancestors	King of the Hill	The Simpsons	Family Guy (N)	American Dad	(10:01) Brothers & Sisters		News (N)
	209	342	6	CHRO	Funniest Home Videos	Gossip Girl (HDTV) (N)		Cold Case (HDTV) (N)		Medium "Car Trouble"		Look-A-Like
	196	311	7	CTV	Star Wars Clo.	Degrassi: TNG	The Amazing Race 14	Desperate Housewives		(10:01) The Mentalist		News (N)
	208	303	8	CBC	Heartland (N) (DVS)		India Reborn Culture and economic growth of India. (N)			CBC News: Sunday Night (N)		Who Do-Think
	-	360	9	NBC	Dateline NBC		Kings "Goliath" (Series Premiere) (N)			The Celebrity Apprentice		News (N)
	-	362	13	CBS	60 Minutes		The Amazing Race 14	Cold Case (HDTV) (N)		The Unit "Hill 60" (N)		CSI: NY
	216	395	14	OMN2	Shooting for Change		Aaram	Airrang Korea	Word for Word	Trendy Zone		Of Blessings
	214	344	15	CITY	2Half Men	2Half Men	Kings "Goliath" (Series Premiere) (N)			Crusoe (HDTV)		News (N)
	218	345	18	E!	The Best Years (DVS)		Extreme Makeover: Home	Apprentice: H'wood Story		The Celebrity Apprentice		News (N)
3/16/09	-	361	20	ABC	Spelling Bee: Detroit Finals		Extreme Makeover: Home	Desperate Housewives		(10:01) Brothers & Sisters		News (N)
	-	365	36	FOX	Hole in the Wall (N)		The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Family Guy (N)	American Dad		Sportsworks
	500	500	33	CNN	Newsroom		State of the Union	Larry King Live		Newsroom		D.L. Hughley
	406	417	27	net	Sportsnet Con.	Baseball World Classic -- Teams TBA. (HDTV) From Dolphin Stadium in Miami. (Live)						Baseball
	126	730	28	RDI	Le Journal RDI	Marie-Claude	Une heure sur Terre (SC)	Le Téléjournal	Les Couillises du pouvoir		Regard	Le Téléjournal
	400	280	30	TSN	SportsCentre	Brier Special	Curling Tim Hortons Brier -- Final. (HDTV) From the Pengrowth Saddledome in Calgary. (Live)					
	554	544	48	TEL	Totally Spies	Totally Spies	6TEEN	Futurama	Punch	Life's a Zoo	Life's a Zoo	Gay Couple
	557	540	51	FAM	That's-Raven	Zoe 101	Life Derek	Han. Montana	Strange Brew ** (1983, Comedy)		(10:31) Hometown Legend	
	551	542	65	YTV	(6) Nacho Libre (2006)		SpongeBob	Prank Patrol	In Real Life		Adrenaline Proj	Zixx Level
	615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		The Sopranos (HDTV)		The Sopranos
3/17/09	628	584	32	SPKE	UFC Unleashed		UFC Unleashed	UFC Unleashed		Ways to Die	Ways to Die	MANswers
	616	521	39	SHO	The Guard (HDTV)		Destination: Infestation (2007, Suspense)			Damages (HDTV) (N)		The Guard
	520	505	42	DIS	MythBusters		Raging Nature (N)		Raging Nature (N)		MythBusters	A. Bourdain
	581	566	53	MTV	Made "Kickboxer"		Cribs		Cribs		Cribs	After
	522	506	55	HIS	NCIS "Faking It"		Underworld Histories		The Departed *** (2006, Crime Drama) Leonardo DiCaprio.			
	603	561	95	FN	Italian Escape	Exotic	Challenge Chocolate.		Iron Chef America		The Next Iron Chef	The Heat

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**Jewel ready for children**

While injuries may have sidelined her from competing on *Dancing with the Stars*, Jewel is taking the opportunity to pursue another dream: starting a family. Jewel says, according to *Contact Music*. **METRO WORLD NEWS**



## Going Out

## Mix of Six

**Peer Gynt**

When: Friday to March 21  
Where: Irving Greenberg Theatre Centre Studio, 1233 Wellington St. W.

Third Wall Theatre presents Henrik Ibsen's epic tale *Peer Gynt*, adapted by Henry Beissel. James Richardson directs. Tickets are \$27, \$20 for students and seniors. For info visit [thirdwall.com](http://thirdwall.com).

**St. Patrick's Day Stomp**

When: Sunday  
Where: The Black Sheep Inn, 420 Riverside Dr., Wakefield  
Party like you're Irish with the celebratory sounds of The Doggers and Tyler Kealey. Tickets \$10 through [ticketweb.ca](http://ticketweb.ca).

**Theatre Flamenco**

When: Saturday, 8 p.m.  
Where: Mercury Lounge, 56 ByWard Market Sq.  
Flashy and captivating dancer Juliana Pulford performs alongside guest Ricardo Osorio Ruiz. Tickets are \$20 in advance from Planet Coffee or Mercury Lounge and \$25 at the door.

**Serena Ryder**

When: Monday, 7 p.m.  
Where: Bronson Centre, 211 Bronson Ave.

Experience the soulful voice of folk rocker Serena Ryder, with special guest Royal Wood. Tickets are \$25 through [ticketmaster.ca](http://ticketmaster.ca).

**Malajube**

When: Friday, 9 p.m.  
Where: Babylon Nightclub, 317 Bank St.  
It's a night showcasing some of Montreal's best with Malajube and Young Galaxy. Tickets \$15 in advance through End Hits, Vertigo Records and [ticketweb.ca](http://ticketweb.ca).

**Beast**

When: Friday, 8 p.m.  
Where: The LiVE Lounge, 126.5 York St.  
Montreal duo Beast plays a dynamic show with guests USS and Ty Hall & the EZ3. Limited tickets available at the door. 19+ event.

Metro's 7<sup>th</sup> Heaven: Metro taps what's hot right now**1 Animal-inspired collections**

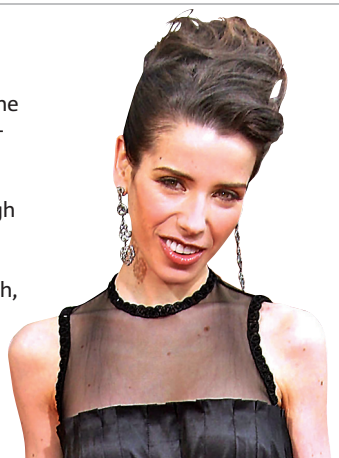
**FASHION** Fauna ruled the runways at Paris Fashion Week. Italian designer Giambattista Valli sent out red-carpet ready looks covered with glimmering feathers as Stella McCartney put her seal on sexy with cruelty-free alternatives to fur and leather (pictured, right).

**2 Resident Evil 5**

**GAME** The latest instalment of the horror-action franchise shifts the killing field to Africa, leading to accusations of racism (white guy gunning black zombies). The jury's still out on the issue, but most seem to agree on one thing — when it comes a visually thrilling creepfest, few games can touch this one.

**3 Happy-Go-Lucky**

**DVD** Never mind the Oscars. The Academy's oversight of Sally Hawkins' career-making performance in the Mike Leigh film was borderline criminal. Rent this one to watch the British actress make you laugh, cry and wince — often all at the same time — in an understated whopper of a movie.

**4 Audrey Niffenegger**

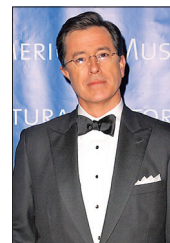
**AUTHOR** Recession? What recession? The author who penned the 2003 bestseller *The Time Traveler's Wife* recently received a mammoth \$4 million dollar advance from Simon & Schuster imprint Scribner for her upcoming book *Her Fearful Symmetry*.

**5 Middle Cyclone: Neko Case**

**ALBUM** The New Pornographers chanteuse takes listeners to her emotional wilderness in this alt-country gem. Amply supported by her Pomo mates, The Band's Garth Hudson and other stellar musicians, Case's third solo effort will most likely make many best-of lists by the end of the year.

**6 Stephen Colbert**

**CELEBRITY** The mercurial funnyman is leading the race to name a NASA space station room. As of Tuesday, fans had cast 115,000 votes in favour of christening the orbiting outpost "Colbert." One of NASA's suggested names — "Serenity" — trail at 98,641 nods. Voting ends March 20.

**7 New iPod Shuffle**

**GADGET** When it comes to Apple, smaller is bigger. The computer giant has further crunched its already-miniscule entry-level iPod while increasing its storage capacity to 4 GB or about 1,000 songs, twice as many as the latest generation of Shuffles.

## '80s dark comedy Heathers is headed for musical theatre

**THEATRE** Get ready for Heathers: The Musical.

The influential 1988 dark comedy about high school, which launched the careers of Winona Ryder, Christian Slater and writer Daniel Waters, is stagebound in a production being developed by Andy Fickman, director of

Race to Witch Mountain, who is returning to his musical roots.

Fickman, who directed the musical *Reefer Madness*, is working with Reefer partner Kevin Murphy, who is writing the Heathers lyrics and the book, and composer Larry O'Keefe, who earned a

Tony nomination for best score for the Broadway version of *Legally Blonde*.

The trio has worked on the production under the radar for some time. In a recent reading, Veronica Mars star Kristen Bell played the lead and Christian Campbell was J.D., with Jenna Leigh Green

(*Wicked*), *BrokeDown* Cadillac lead singer Corri English and Christine Lakin (the CW's *Valentine*) as the three Heathers.

The actors doing the reading will not necessarily do the musical; that depends on their availability when the play is mount-

ed. The project has the blessing of Waters, who controls the underlying rights to the material. Fickman said he sat down with the screenwriter early on "to make sure we were on the same page" and that Waters has seen the readings.



Winona Ryder, star of the 1988 film *Heathers*.

REUTERS

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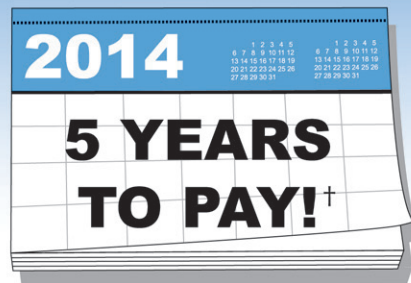
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Cheech Marin, best known for his roles in the Cheech & Chong and Nash Bridges, will wed girlfriend of four and a half years, professional classical pianist Natasha Rubin, people.com reports. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

## Celebrity Buzz

### Custody fight finalized

**DIVORCE** Madonna and Guy Ritchie have finalized their custody battle in the U.S. after a hearing at Manhattan Supreme Court, according to the British paper the Sun. Lourdes, Rocco and adopted son David Banda will live with their mother in New York and make regular visits to the U.K. to see their father. The boys will also spend school holidays in England with Ritchie, but 12-year-old Lourdes, Madonna's daughter from a previous relationship, will stay stateside.

METRO WORLD NEWS



### Hasselhoff's ex arrested for DUI

**POLICE** David Hasselhoff's ex-wife could have used a little help from Kitt from Knight Rider on Wednesday evening. The actor's ex, Pamela Bach, was arrested for felony DUI in Los Angeles, police records show, people.com reports.

Bach, 46, was arrested at 9 p.m. and booked at the Van Nuys, Calif., jail at around midnight. She was released three hours later after posting \$100,000 bail. Details of the incident weren't immediately available. Bach is currently mired in an ongoing divorce with Hasselhoff. A court date was set for April 6.

METRO NEWS SERVICE



## Mayer splits with Aniston ... again?

**RELATIONSHIP** Rumours are flying that Jennifer Aniston and John Mayer have called it quits once again.

"He broke up with her when she got back from her European tour," a source tells E! News. Neither star's rep is commenting on the split, but friends of Aniston caution that the pair shouldn't be written off completely, as they've broken up in the past.

But Aniston might see things differently: "Who ever said that every relationship has to last

forever? That's hoping too much," the actress recently said to Britain's You magazine.

METRO WORLD NEWS



ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

## Brown's manager denies romance

**ALLEGATIONS** Chris Brown's manager Tina Davis denies sending the three-page text message that started his alleged assault against Rihanna, usmagazine.com reports.

According to TMZ.com, Davis and Brown — who are 20 years apart in age — had an intimate relationship.

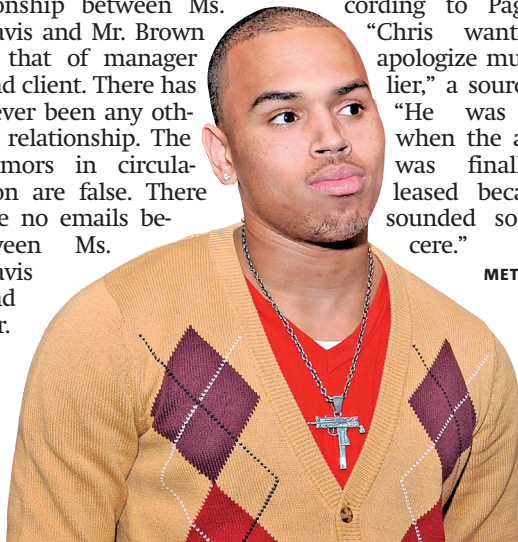
Davis' lawyer Marshall B Grossman released a statement that reads: "The relationship between Ms. Davis and Mr. Brown is that of manager and client. There has never been any other relationship. The rumors in circulation are false. There are no emails between Ms. Davis and Mr."

Brown of the type which have been described in media reports."

Meanwhile, Chris Brown and Rihanna may be staying together, but there are some other folks with whom he's allegedly looking to part ways. Brown is looking to dump his crisis management team over how they dealt with the aftermath of his arrest for allegedly assaulting his girlfriend, according to Page Six.

"Chris wanted to apologize much earlier," a source says. "He was upset when the apology was finally released because it sounded so insincere."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



### Paris dying for New Moon role

**ACTING** Paris Hilton is "desperate" to star in New Moon, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The House of Wax star — who was given the dubious honour of three trophies for Repo! The Genetic Opera and The Hottie And The Nottie at this year's Razzie awards — has reportedly been bombarding the vampire franchise's star Robert Pattinson with calls in a bid to secure a role.

A source told America's Star magazine: "She has also had her manager call the casting agent to lobby for a part on her behalf. Paris is desperate for people to take her seriously as an actress. She thinks she'd be perfect to play one of the vampires."

She's even willing to play a victim — she just wants in."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



## DJ AM wasn't set for doomed flight

**RUMOUR** Adam Goldstein, a.k.a. DJ AM, has dismissed reports he was booked on the doomed Continental Flight 3407 and escaped what would have been his second deadly plane crash in six months, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

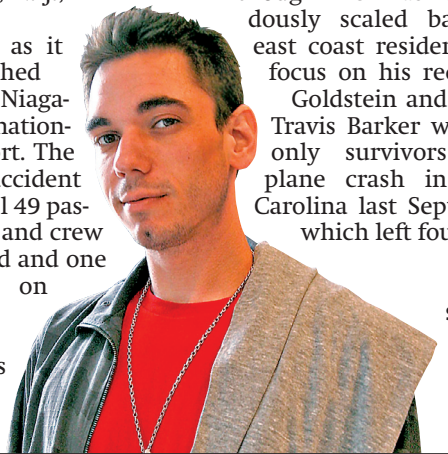
Internet reports on Wednesday suggested the 35-year-old had a seat on the Feb. 12 flight from Newark, N.J., which crashed as it approached Buffalo Niagara International Airport. The tragic accident killed all 49 passengers and crew on board and one person on the ground.

It was claimed DJ AM

cancelled at the last minute and made the journey by car instead, but the star's publicist insists the rumours are false, stating, "DJ AM was never booked on the Continental flight that crashed last month, in fact he was performing that evening in NYC. That crash nor the one he was involved in, has prevented him from flying — although he has tremendously scaled back his east coast residencies to focus on his recovery."

Goldstein and his pal Travis Barker were the only survivors of a plane crash in South Carolina last September, which left four dead.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



## Phoenix flips out

**INCIDENT** Taking a cue from other unruly hip-hop stars, Joaquin Phoenix jumped into the crowd of a Miami Beach club early yesterday and confronted an audience member who was heckling him, people.com reports.

A disheveled Phoenix, 34, came out onstage smoking a cigarette and sporting his now trademark beard, according to The Associated Press. He was rapping unintelligibly when he became agitated, said, "We have a (double-expletive) in the audience," and jumped down into the packed LIV nightclub at the

Fontainebleau Miami Beach hotel.

"I saw the guy screaming at Joaquin, and Joaquin just came down," Jorge Lledo, 30, of Miami Beach told The AP. While it was not immediately clear whether the two men exchanged any blows, security guards immediately swarmed and dragged Phoenix back on stage before escorting him away.

Casey Affleck, Phoenix's brother-in-law, filmed the whole thing, of course, causing some to suspect it was all part of an act. "(Affleck's) camera was filming the whole time, so it makes me think he has ulterior motives," said Luis Gendron, 23, of Miami.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



## OH BABY!

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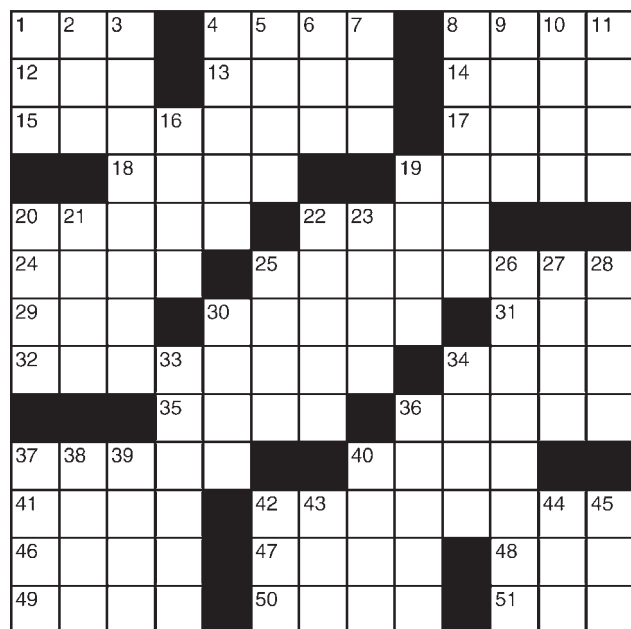




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## Take Five



### Crossword across

- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1 Occupation                  | 31 Shelter                             |
| 4 Having a Y chromosome       | 32 Subtract                            |
| 8 Invitation notation         | 34 Twofold                             |
| 12 Be below par               | 35 Shade                               |
| 13 Leading man                | 36 Muscular                            |
| 14 Gardener, at times         | 37 Run — of (violate)                  |
| 15 Toronto team               | 40 Singer Campbell                     |
| 17 Cosmonaut Gagarin          | 41 Deposited                           |
| 18 Furry sci-fi critter       | 42 In song, it "saw me standing alone" |
| 19 NFL Hall-of-Famer Hank     | 46 Ticket price?                       |
| 20 Thread                     | 47 Traditional tales                   |
| 22 Leave a lasting impression | 48 Bill                                |
| 24 Bloodhound's clue          | 49 Clumsy fleet                        |
| 25 Mix up                     | 50 "— be surprised"                    |
| 29 Ultra-modernist            | 51 List-ending abbr.                   |
| 30 Wise lawgiver              |  |

### Crossword down

- |                                |                           |                      |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Poke                         | 20 Typist's choice        | 38 Equitable         |
| 2 Lubricant                    | 21 Notion                 | 39 Sty cry           |
| 3 Car dealer's reference guide | 22 Showy display          | 40 Expert            |
| 4 Army rank                    | 23 Helen's home           | 42 Journalist Nellie |
| 5 Aleutian island              | 25 Scattered, as seed     | 43 Privy             |
| 6 Ballad                       | 26 Noted jazz label       | 44 Feedbag tidbit    |
| 7 Type squares                 | 27 Image on Canada's flag | 45 Leno's home       |
| 8 Tempo                        | 28 Slithery               |                      |
| 9 Acerbic                      | 30 Go yachting            |                      |
| 10 Miles of movies             | 33 Piano pieces           |                      |
| 11 Prudish                     | 34 Consider               |                      |
| 16 Basin                       | 36 Evidence a cut         |                      |
| 19 Read bar codes              | 37 — Romeo                |                      |

### PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



5	3	7	6	1	2	4	9	8
6	1	2	9	8	4	5	3	7
8	9	4	5	3	7	6	2	1
1	5	3	2	7	6	8	4	9
7	6	8	3	4	9	1	5	2
4	2	9	8	5	1	7	6	3
3	4	6	7	9	8	2	1	5
9	7	1	4	2	5	3	8	6
2	8	5	1	6	3	9	7	4

Find today's answers + play more games at [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)

### SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:

Under 13 min	.....Genius	17-21 min	.....Smart
13-17 min	.....Scholar	21-25 min	.....Not bad
		25+ min	.....Keep practising

### Metro Recipe of the Day



### Beef and Mushroom Stroganoff

#### INGREDIENTS:

2 tbsp (25 ml) extra-virgin olive oil  
3 cups (750 ml) halved mushrooms  
1 red pepper, seeded and cut into fine strips  
1 1/2 cups (375 ml) small broccoli florets  
2/3 cup (150 ml) beef stock, preferably homemade  
1 onion, sliced  
10 oz (300 g) beef tenderloin, cut into thin strips  
2 tbsp (25 ml) brandy  
3 tbsp (45 ml) bottled grated horseradish (optional)  
2/3 cup (150 ml) sour cream  
Salt and fresh-ground black pepper

#### METHOD:

1. Heat half the oil in large pot over medium heat. Add mushrooms and sauté until beginning to soften, 2 minutes. Stir in red pepper and broccoli florets and continue to sauté, stir-

ring, 3 to 4 minutes.  
2. Pour in stock and bring to boil. Reduce heat, cover pot, and simmer 5 minutes or until broccoli is just tender.  
3. Meanwhile, heat remaining 1 tbsp (15 ml) oil in large frying pan over high heat. Add onion and sauté 5 minutes or until soft and beginning to brown.  
4. Add beef strips to onions and sauté 1 minute or until beef begins to change colour. Stand back from pan, pour in brandy.  
5. Stir in horseradish, if using, and sour cream. Add vegetables with their cooking liquid. Stir well and season to taste. Serve with rice pilaf, tagliatelle or boiled new potatoes.

**SERVES 4**

[rd.ca](http://rd.ca)

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to [rd.ca](http://rd.ca) or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!



## Horoscopes

## AVATAR VENUS

### ARIES

**MARCH 21-APRIL 20**

Give up on a losing proposition. Timing is important when sending a message. A friend will try to convince you of something.



### TAURUS

**APRIL 21-MAY 21**

You can rely on getting backup for your plans. Be positive about a change to your routine. Tax info comes in handy.



### GEMINI

**MAY 22-JUNE 21**

Forget about making a deadline. Someone you hurt will lend a hand to make mischief. A woman will respond frantically to a stranger's behaviour.



### CANCER

**JUNE 22-JULY 22**

Don't live beyond your means. A robust man is reluctant to share information. Authority figures will give no hints.



### LEO

**JULY 23-AUG 23**

There's only one solution to a problem. A quarrel can ruin a relationship. Spend time avoiding a fearless friend's complaints.



### VIRGO

**AUG 24-SEPT 22**

An elder will comfort you. A change will free you. A compassionate man will rule out emotionality.



### LIBRA

**SEPT 23-OCT 23**

Don't wring your hands after someone blurts out an answer. Timing is crucial. A game player causes jealousy.



### SCORPIO

**OCT 24-NOV 22**

Contact is made with a shady lady. Solve a mystery when something can't be fixed. Be ready for a sinful adventure.



### SAGITTARIUS

**NOV 23-DEC 21**

An illness will cause a stir. Good things happen in love matters. Don't be gushy with strangers.



### CAPRICORN

**DEC 22-JAN 20**

A brilliant person will be late. Passion fights with pessimism at night. Investigate any proposals for dishonest motivations.



### AQUARIUS

**JAN 21-FEB 18**

The fun begins when friends return to old haunts. Don't have a bitter quarrel in public. Solve a paradoxical problem by taking action.



### PISCES

**FEB 19-MARCH 20**

Something wacky takes place in a crisis. Legal matters do better than expected. Making a bad choice will restore a relationship.



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